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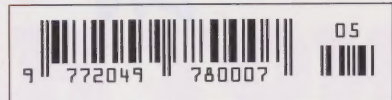
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Providing a  
positive antidote  
to hate and intolerance

September-October 2013

Issue no. 10 Price £3.50



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# **H P E not hate**



## **Is this a sign of things to come?**

### **Race, immigration and British politics**



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**HOPE not hate challenges organised hate and intolerance within our society. We mobilise communities by providing a positive alternative to the politics of hate.**

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# HOPE not hate

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anti-racist publication

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HOPE not hate is a bi-monthly  
publication providing information on  
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to combat them.

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## Nick Lowles

**EDITOR**

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## Massive attack on civic society

THIS EDITION of *HOPE not hate* has been produced against the background of a Government Bill which threatens the very effective of HOPE not hate as an organisation.

The Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Bill, which is being rushed through Parliament so as to come into force in time for the next General Election, is a massive attack on civic society, freedom of speech and the rights of organisations like ours to hold political parties and politicians to account.

This Bill, if it becomes law, would severely restrict the ability of HOPE not hate to fight racism and fascism in the 12 months before a General Election. The Bill reduces the amount we could spend in the 12 month election period by 70% while widening the range of activities we would have to account for. Staff costs beyond those directly involved in campaigning would have to be included for the first time, as would organising rallies, conferences, policy briefings, our website and blogs. Even some aspects of our work that have absolutely no relation to elections – such as research and general anti-racist community campaigning – may have to be included.

Worse still, the restrictions and caps placed on us go way beyond what is required by political parties.

And it is not just HOPE not hate that will suffer. Any organisation or individual that attempts to influence public opinion in the 12 months ahead of a General Election would be affected by these proposed new rules. If this Bill was already law than the Royal British Legion would not have been able to campaign for the Military Covenant; Oxfam would not have been able to promote the Make Poverty History initiative; and the NUS would not have been able to conduct its highly successful anti-tuition fees campaign.

### LIMIT CRITICISM

How ironic that it is the Liberal Democrats, who benefited so much from the NUS campaign, that are now leading the charge to silence civic groups.

The Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Bill was supposed to increase transparency and trust in politics but is in fact shutting down the space for anyone other than political parties to actively participate in politics. At a time when there is so much distrust of political parties and politicians within British society, we should be looking to increase participation in politics not reduce it.

And this, fundamentally, is the problem with this Bill. A deliberate attempt to limit criticism and participation by third party groups, charities and unions, combined with poor and sloppy drafting, has left us with a Bill which restricts freedom of speech for ordinary people.

The billionaire owner of a national newspaper is exempt from these rules. The millionaire donors to political parties are exempt from these rules. The political parties themselves are exempt from these rules. It's business as usual for the political and business elite. But for the cancer charity that wants to campaign against the closure of a hospital wing, the RSPB that might want to protect a wetland, in its campaign against racism and fascism, it is not business as usual.

It is David Cameron v the Big Society.

I want greater transparency and a level playing field in politics for everyone involved. But this Bill is an affront to a modern democracy. It is unworkable, politically motivated and, probably, illegal. We must do everything we can to ensure that the little people have a voice and can be heard.

Please support our campaign to prevent this Gaggling Bill from hindering HOPE not hate in its fight against racism and fascism.



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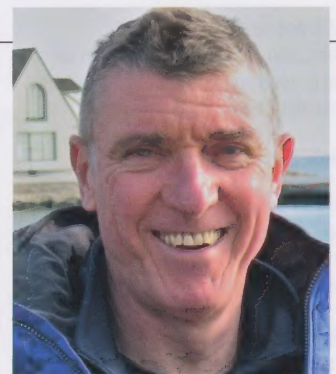
### MARIA VASQUEZ-AGUILER

Chilean exile  
Maria Vasquez-Aguiler  
recounts learning to  
walk in a Chilean  
concentration camp.



### NARMADA THIRANAGAMA

Unison's Narmada  
Thiranagama examines  
the impact UKIP's  
policies would have on  
workers' rights



### PAUL COOPER

Cycling writer and  
photographer Paul Cooper  
investigates the origins  
of the greatest bike race  
in the world

### HOPE not hate challenges the politics of hate and organised intolerance within society.

Initially established to counter the electoral rise of the BNP, HOPE not hate mobilises communities by providing a positive alternative to the politics of hate. Since it was founded in 2004, HOPE not hate has over 165,000 online supporters and over 60,000 followers on Facebook.

We are not aligned to any political party and will work with everyone wherever possible.

HOPE not hate comprises HOPE not hate Ltd and our charitable wing, HOPE not hate Educational Ltd.

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# HOPE not hate



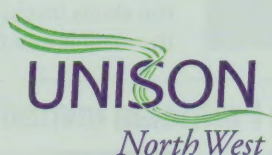
## Eight months to Sack Nick Griffin



"UNISON North West has worked with Hope not Hate for many years. It is an excellent organisation. We are fully supporting their 'Sack Nick Griffin' campaign and, working with communities across the North West, look forward to seeing the back of Nick Griffin and the BNP in 2014."

**KEVAN NELSON**

North West Regional Secretary, UNISON



**Join the campaign and let's  
say goodbye to the BNP**

# TUC



## Midlands TUC

**Working in partnership  
with HOPE not hate**

*The Midlands TUC is looking  
forward to working in  
solidarity with HOPE not hate  
to defeat the BNP in 2014 in  
the European elections.*

**ROB JOHNSON**

Regional Secretary, Midlands TUC



**Unions Together are proud to work  
with HOPE not hate in the fight  
against racism and fascism.**

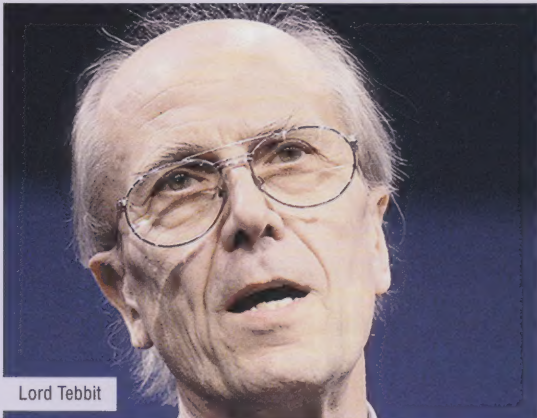
**Chair: Paul Kenny, GMB**

**Vice Chair: Billy Hayes, CWU**

**[www.unionstogether.org.uk](http://www.unionstogether.org.uk)**



## Lord Tebbit Claims EDL Are not Right Wing



Lord Tebbit

FORMER CONSERVATIVE minister Lord Tebbit has claimed there is no evidence that the English Defence League is a far-right organisation.

Tebbit claims that anti-Islamophobia monitoring group Tell Mama is attempting to smear mainstream conservatives by labelling the EDL as right-wing following a report commissioned by the group.

In an email to Fiyaz Mughal, director of Tell MAMA Lord Tebbit wrote: "It is no good telling me that they are nasty. Pol Pot, Stalin, Kim, Castro and Mao were nasty, but they were not 'right wing'.

Speaking to The Huffington Post Lord Tebbit said: "The labelling of the EDL as right-wing is just an attempt to associate these thugs with those of us in this country who hold right-wing views.

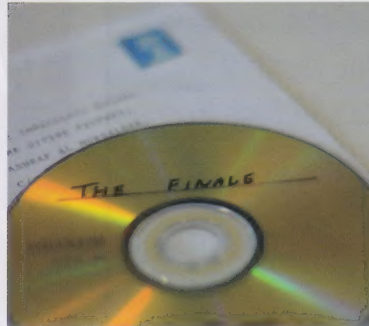
"They are certainly authoritarian in nature, but I actually associate them with some of the aspects of communism."

Lord Tebbit has previously claimed that the BNP are also left-wing, stating: "It is a national socialist party. Take a look at its 2005 election manifesto. You won't find much about reducing the power of the state and increasing that of the individual. To be kind to the BNP, one might call it a corporatist party. To put it more roughly, one might say that it is a fascist party, a Left-wing authoritarian party."

## Hate Filled DVD's Sent To UK Mosques

POLICE ARE investigating a potential hate crime after a series of hate filled DVDs were sent to mosques and Islamic centres across the UK.

The DVD entitled 'The Finale' contained Nazi propaganda along with hardcore pornography and was intended to cause distress to those that viewed it.



A Metropolitan Police spokesman said: "Officers from So15 counter terrorism command are investigating a linked series of malicious communications in London and other parts of the United Kingdom.

"It follows a number of complaints from individuals and religious organisations who received a DVD containing offensive material in the post. There have been no arrests at this stage and an investigation has been launched."

Footage taken from the DVD shows a skull infested with rats, worms and insects with the words 'Prophet Mohamed' scrawled on the skulls forehead. At the foot of the skull is an offensive slogan.

## Controversial Indian Politician Invited To UK

A CONTROVERSIAL far-right Indian politician has been invited to the UK.

Narendra Modi (pictured), a Hindu nationalist with the BJP party, is considered to be a leading candidate to become India's next prime minister and has been invited by both the Labour and Conservative party to address MPs.

Modi was until last year banned from entering the UK following allegations he had fuelled anti-Muslim sentiments and communal violence in the Indian state of Gujarat in 2002.

Violence erupted when a Muslim gang set fire to a train in the town of Godhra killing 60 Hindu pilgrims and leading to gangs of Hindus taking revenge on



their Muslim neighbours, killing more than 2,000 in a wave of rape, arson and murder.

The dead included three Britons visiting India on holiday.

Modi, instead of trying to prevent the slaughter, allegedly told his administration to do nothing and is thought to have condoned some of the violence.

## Councillor's Gypsy Comments Reported To Police

A THURROCK councillor who claimed that a Travellers' site would look like "My big fat Gypsy cesspit" is having his comments investigated by police.

Mark Coxshall (pictured right), who represents the Corringham and Fobbing ward, made the remarks regarding a proposed planning application for a site at Stanford-le-Hope, Essex.

Welcoming the council's decision to block the application, Coxshall

complained that delays had allowed the Travellers to "bed in".

Coxshall told the local media: "We all know what happens next: they start building walls and fences and we end up with a section of Stanford that looks like a cross between 'my big fat Gypsy cesspit' and Shameless."

Representatives of Travellers' groups said they believed the comments were racist and complained to the council. Several families had

moved onto the site earlier in the year and applied for planning consent.

A statement from group stated: "The comments made by councillor Mark Coxshall to the press and public are, we believe, inciting racial hatred and discriminatory against the legally recognised and defined ethnic minority of gipsies and travellers.

"We have read up on the TV programme Shameless and it depicts characters involved in theft, benefit



fraud, prostitution, abuse and drug dealing. We believe the negative comments are unacceptable."



## TV Channels Fined For Hate Comments

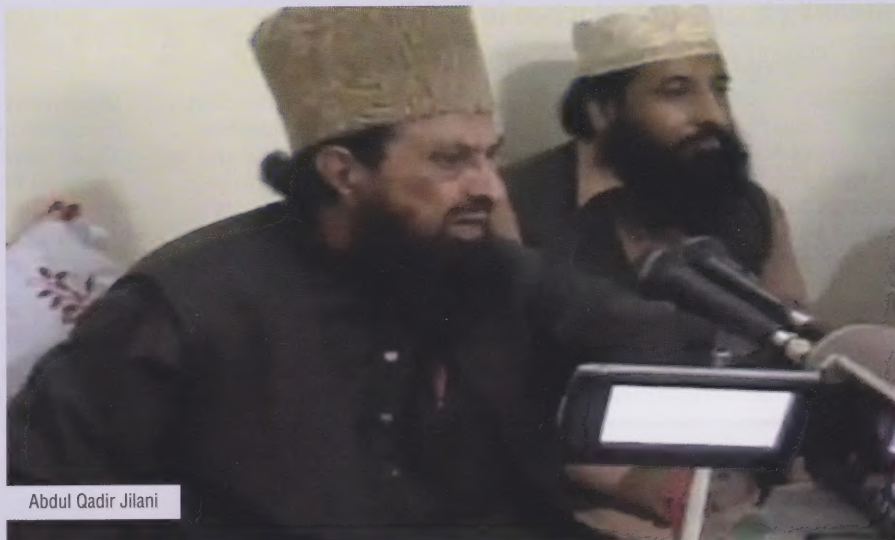
A TV channel has been fined £85,000 following a broadcast of a speech by an Islamic hate preacher who said Muslims had "a duty to kill" anyone who insulted the Prophet Muhammad.

Ofcom, the broadcasting regulator fined the Asian channel DM Digital after a lecture was aired by the controversial cleric Rehmatul Lil Alameen in October 2011.

The fundamentalist preacher also praised the murder of a prominent Pakistani politician who opposed the introduction of a blasphemy law.

Another TV channel Noor TV was also fined £85,000 for inciting violence back in May 2012.

Presenter Allama Muhammad



Abdul Qadir Jilani

Farooq Nizami answered questions from viewers all around the world about a wide range of Islamic issues including one question asking what the punishment should be for someone

insulting the Prophet Muhammad.

Nizami answered saying that the punishment should be death.

Both channels were ordered never to reshoot the offending programmes.



## BNP member jailed for attack on Islamic centre

A BNP member with links to The English Defence League has been jailed for attacking an Essex mosque following the brutal murder of Drummer Lee Rigby.

Geoffrey Ryan (pictured above) approached the Al-Falah Braintree Islamic Centre armed with two knives and a smoke grenade and threatened centre member Saruk Miah, who was alone in the building and had to make a swift escape onto the centre's flat roof.

Still armed with the knives Ryan shouted: "I'll kill you Muslims, I'll kill you before the police come, come downstairs, come out, I'm going to cut your throat."

When the police arrived at the centre Ryan resisted arrest causing the officers to use batons to enable their arrest.

He was jailed for nine months on Monday after admitting two charges of having a bladed object in a public place and one charge of affray.

Sentencing, Judge Goldstaub said: "It was an attack that was both racial and religiously motivated and it's the kind of thing that won't be tolerated in this country, which is a tolerant country that deals with matters through the judicial process and not people taking the law into their own hands."

## BNP Candidate Jailed For Racist Hate Campaign

A FORMER BNP candidate has been jailed after a five-year racist hate campaign against his German next-door neighbour.

Roy West, from Tameside, Greater Manchester started the abuse against his next door neighbour Bernd Kugow as far back as 2008.

The BNP activist repeatedly called Bernd Kugow a 'kraut bastard', planted poppies in his back garden and hung a Union Flag over the neighbour's shared shed.

When Mr Kugow claimed he would remove the flag West told him: "If you come into this fucking garden you won't get out alive because I'll kill you. You are

a 'fucking kraut, get back to fucking kraut land."

West was eventually given a restraining order banning him from contacting Mr Kugow after he was convicted of racially aggravated harassment.

However, West was arrested again after posting a video on YouTube in which he holds up a DVD claiming it was 'evidence' that his neighbours had been 'spying on him' with a CCTV camera.

Passing sentence, District Judge Khalid Qureshi told West: 'It's clear to me this was a deliberate breach of an order imposed to try and deal with the problem your neighbours suffered from your behaviour.'



Roy West with Nick Griffin

- Home news is collated and updated on a daily basis at [www.hopenothate.org.uk/news/](http://www.hopenothate.org.uk/news/) scan the QR code to see the latest >>
- 2015 General Election take a stand for HOPE p14





## GERMANY | Nazi march blocked in Bad Nenndorf

FROM MICHAEL KLEIN FOR ANTIFA-NET IN BAD NENNDORF

THIS YEAR's nazi march in Bad Nenndorf, near Hanover, at the beginning of August, was stopped in its tracks by anti-fascist protesters. Since 2006, nazis have made an annual pilgrimage to the town to mourn German SS and Wehrmacht prisoners who died at an interrogation centre run by the British occupation authorities after the war. A ragbag of about 350 nazis left the town frustrated

after finding their path blocked by more than 800 anti-fascists mobilised by trade unions and an alliance of community groups. Among international fascists there to lend their support to claims of "British atrocities" were US supporter of the nazi National Democratic Party, Roy Godenau and Lady Michèle Renouf who, guarded by Hamburg thug Thomas Wulff and under a Union

Jack umbrella, carried a makeshift placard with the inscription 'Cruel Britain' along with veteran National Front fanatic Richard Edmonds. All of them listened reverently to oft-convicted Holocaust denier Ursula Haverbeck's speech. Though the nazis were thwarted, they will continue to turn up in decreasing numbers, having registered their march until 2030.



## AUSTRIA | Objekt 21: Parliamentary questions to justice minister

FROM MARTIN JORDAN IN VIENNA

AUSTRIA'S GREEN PARTY has submitted urgent parliamentary questions to the Justice Ministry to demand answers over legal inconsistencies in, and the slow prosecution of, the criminal activities of a nazi group in Upper Austria. In March 2010, nazis belonging to informal Blood&Honour structures founded the 'Objekt 21' association in the small community of Desselbrunn. Just five months later, police investigations against the group were started due to public pressure by anti-fascists and followed by official disbandment of the group in 2011. It has taken another two years for the heads of the group to be held on remand but, so far, prosecutors have not slapped formal charges on them. The man behind Objekt 21 is convicted criminal nazi Jürgen Windhofer (a former leader of the nazi "Combat Unit Upper Danube" group). Although, Windhofer has been serving a prison sentence since the autumn of 2010, he has continued to pull the wires of the Objekt 21 gang that until this year was into the business of arson, drug trafficking, extortion and violence.



(left) Jens Bruchseifer frontman of the German nazi band "Sturmwehr" (right) Jürgen Windhofer unofficial leader of Objekt 21

## SPAIN | Popular Party members snapped with nazi flags

FROM SANDRA CORTÉS IN MADRID

THE ANNUAL football tournament organised in 20 July by Valencia FC's Ultra Yomus nazi hooligan gang and attended by members of other hooligan mobs from Spain and Italy, including the Ultra Boys (Sporting de Gijón FC) or Curva Nord (Inter Milan) had a special guest: no less than Jorge Roca, Secretary for Sports for the ruling conservative Popular Party in Xativa (Valencia). Roca was photographed with several hooligans making the fascist salute behind a Spanish flag emblazoned with the Nazi odal rune symbol. After the picture's publication in various newspapers, Roca apologised.

Left of centre opposition parties called for his removal, but the PP statement dismissed the demand. Roca is not alone in dabbling in nazi symbolism. Juan Pedro Martínez, the PP mayoral candidate in Tarragona (Catalonia), was recently exposed posing next to a swastika and the national flag of the Franco

regime. The corruption-tainted PP is silent over the matter. It will not discipline Roca and Martínez, nor will it take action against Manuel González Capon, the mayor of Baralla who stated recently that those executed during Franco's dictatorship "deserved it".

■ [www.antifeixistes.org](http://www.antifeixistes.org)



## ROMANIA | Tudor kicked out of PRM

FROM DANA IONESCU IN BUCHAREST







Photo:  
enoughisenough.eu



## SWEDEN | Nazis more active

FROM DANIEL VERGARA FOR EXPO IN STOCKHOLM

THE ACTIVITY of the hardcore racist scene in Sweden has escalated dramatically, according to a report by anti-fascist Expo project *Intolerans 12*. The increase in extremist activity reverses a downward trend. Since Expo 2008 started to monitor the activity by white power organisations, there had been an annual decline but, in 2012, the racist scene was 24% more active than in 2011, with 1,824 actions and events monitored. At the same time, the number of hate groups has declined, nazis and racists opting to gather around fewer organisations.

The Nazi Party of Sweden,

formerly the National Socialist Front, registered the biggest increase in activity, engaging in no fewer than 1,034 actions last year. The second busiest Nazi outfit was the Swedish Resistance Movement (SMR), accounting for 435 cases of political action. In most cases, the activity involved distributing propaganda or holding demonstrations.

The openly Nazi Party of Sweden will try to win 10 seats on local councils in the 2014 elections and has attracted people from other far-right groups. 2012 was another violent year for the SMR, one of whose members committed a murder in Vallentuna, near Stockholm, at the end of the year. Another SMR member is wanted for the police for the same murder.

## LITHUANIA | Gay pride march thwarts opposition

FROM GEOFF VASIL FOR DEFENDINGHISTORY.COM IN VILNIUS



THE END of July saw the second gay pride march to be held in Vilnius, Lithuania's capital. The first, in 2010, featured massive protests with violent homophobes outnumbering marchers by 10 to one. This year the march was allowed on Gedimino prospektas, Vilnius' main street, where Nazi marchers have paraded annually sporting swastikas, SS symbols, racist and homophobic banners since 2008. The police presence was heavy, the authorities using the occasion to deploy a drone publicly for the first time, hovering over the square where the march culminated.

The opposing groups mingled while security services huddled

around an unknown Swedish EU politician. Strangely, the Swedish and Dutch ambassadors were left without protection. Fania Kukliansky, chairperson of Lithuania's Jewish community, bucked community opinion by appearing at the march.

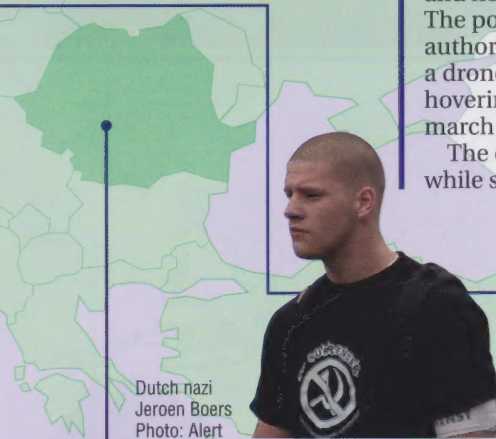
The organisers misjudged the situation, instructing Lithuanian anti-fascists not to film the march and threatening to have the police remove them. Police, meanwhile, ignored violations by far-right protesters. Under Lithuanian law, it is illegal to wear masks at public demonstrations but at this one they completely ignored more than 30 masked anti-gay protesters.

## NETHERLANDS | Police in three country anti-terror raids

FROM JEROEN BOSCH IN AMSTERDAM FOR ALERT! AND ANTIFA-NET

POLICE CARRIED out searches at the homes, offices and prison cells of nazis in Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands in July. The nazis are suspected of forming a terror network to use violence to attack the German political system. A key suspect is the Dutch Nazi Jeroen Boers, 20. Boers, an activist in Blood&Honour, has been spotted at at least three demonstrations in Germany. At the time of the police raids, though, he was on holiday. Police were looking for encrypted databases on his computer. Just days after the raids, nazis from the same circle as Boers stood trial in Alkmaar.

Tomas Boutens, Rory de Koning, Jeroen van de Berg and Arnoud Kuipers were arrested in October 2011 transporting a huge bag of weapons in their car. The group they now belong to is Ulfhednar, a continuation of Blood&Honour's Westland branch. Boutens was a leader of the Flemish *Blood, Soil, Honour and Loyalty* (BBET) group dismantled after it raided military barracks in 2007. This group, which possessed numerous weapons, aimed to start a race war and is still on trial in Belgium. At the trial, it was claimed that the weapons were meant to be for the white struggle in South Africa.



Dutch Nazi  
Jeroen Boers  
Photo: Alert

ROMANIAN FASCIST Corneliu Vadim Tudor has been unceremoniously kicked out of the Greater Romania Party (PRM) he founded in 1991. In an internal coup, Gheorghe Funar replaced him as leader at an emergency congress at the end of July. Gloating at his victory, Funar declared that the PRM "has the power to resurrect and must resurrect before the European elections." Asked to comment, Tudor complained that the emergency congress was organised illegally by his challengers, it was "based on false documents", claimed he could not be expelled from the party because he is its founder and because it is a "trade mark". Funar, once a popular nationalist politician, rose to fame as mayor of Cluj-Napoca between 1992 and 2004, when he filled the streets and public buildings with the Romanian national flag and painted public benches in its three colours (red-yellow-blue). As a PRM MP from 2004 to 2008, he tried to pass a law dictating the distribution of Romanian-language Bibles to all citizens.

■ For the latest international news visit [www.hopenothate.org.uk/international/](http://www.hopenothate.org.uk/international/) or scan the QR code right >>

■ Country in Focus: Poland page 40



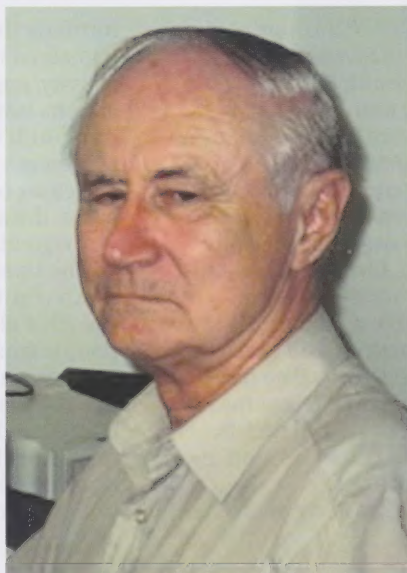


## CANADA | Nazis barred from inheriting valuable coins

SOURCE: CBC NEWS

THE SISTER of a New Brunswick man who left a collection of coins worth an estimated \$250,000 to the Nazi National Alliance (NA) in the USA has won an injunction to block the move. The court order temporarily halts any distribution of Robert McCorkill's estate or its transfer out of New Brunswick. McCorkill (pictured right) left his collection to the NA before his death nine years ago but his legacy has remained in dispute. Anti-racist groups had planned to try to stop the NA from receiving the items, fearing they could be sold and help spark a rebirth of the Nazi outfit which has been in decline since its founder, William Pierce died in 2002.

Initial estimates valued the collection at up to \$1m but probate court documents show that McCorkill's estate valued at about \$250,000, with about \$89,000 in outstanding liabilities. The collection includes Greek and Roman coins that are thousands of years old, an ancient Iranian sword, Neolithic arrowheads and an ancient Egyptian stone tablet.



## JAPAN | Aso refuses to go over "Nazi" blunder

SOURCE: JAPAN TIMES

JAPAN'S DEPUTY premier and finance minister Taro Aso has refused to step down from government and parliament for citing Nazi Germany as an example for revising his country's pacifist constitution. Aso, prime minister from 2007 to 2008, said he did not intend to justify the Nazi regime but refused to apologise for stating "Germany's Weimar Constitution was changed before anyone knew. It was changed before anyone else noticed", and asking: "Why don't we learn from that method?"

A South Korean foreign ministry spokesman said Aso's remark had "hurt" many people and urged him to consider the feelings of people in neighbouring countries that had "suffered damage" from Japanese invasions. Aso's remarks come at a time when "there has been intense attention" on where prime minister Shinzo Abe, "who has long been a leading figure on Japan's far right, might lead his long-rudderless nation after his governing Liberal Democratic Party's decisive victory in (the Upper House election) last month," commented the *New York Times*. Fears persist among many Japanese and other Asians that Abe's government wants to present Imperial Japan, an ally of Nazi Germany, in a more positive light.



Japan's deputy premier and finance minister Taro Aso  
Photo: Sebastian Derungs



## AUSTRALIA | Islam gaffe candidate Banister quits Oz election

SOURCE: BBC

STEPHANIE BANISTER, 27, an election candidate in Queensland for the anti-immigration One Nation Party, has withdrawn her candidacy after publicly mistaking Islam for a country in a TV interview that went viral on social media. Banister also confused the term *haram* (forbidden) with the Koran



and suggested that Jews worship Jesus Christ.

"I don't oppose Islam as a country, but I do feel that their laws should not be welcome here in Australia," she told a *Seven News* reporter. She announced her withdrawal from the election,

apologising to her racist One Nation colleagues. Party leader, Jim Savage, said Banister continued to have the "full support" of the party's executive. Commentators compare Banister to Sarah Palin, the gaffe-prone Republican vice-presidential candidate in the 2008 US election. Banister's five minutes of fame started when she was arrested in a supermarket for putting stickers saying "*halal* food funds terrorism" on Nestlé products. She is now facing charges of "contaminating or interfering with goods".



## Guest column...

# Beware the UKIP rights robbery

**Narmada Thiranagama** examines the impact UKIP's policies would have on workers' rights.



UNTIL THEIR performance in the May 2013 local elections, UKIP's policies on matters outside immigration and Europe had largely escaped scrutiny.

It is time this changed.

For our members and the communities they serve, the prospect of UKIP councillors having a voice in local decision-making means it's important we know what their political instincts are.

Many who back UKIP as a vote against the political class might be surprised at what it has planned for the working class.

Comments by UKIP MEP Godfrey Bloom make it clear it is calling for mass redundancies in the public sector to revitalise the economy.

"They are public sector jobs, so they are taking money out of the economy and wealth creation.

I hope hundreds, thousands of jobs will be lost ... you will never understand UKIP until you understand this point. Public spending takes money out of the economy, it doesn't put it in."

The party website page aimed at small businesses provides a more detailed commentary on UKIP's view of the workplace.

Unsurprisingly, UKIP focuses its policy for small and medium enterprises on leaving the regulatory "burdens" of Europe, and envisions a radical transformation of the relationship between employer and employee, virtually unregulated and free to market forces.

"UKIP would put an end to most legislation regarding matters such as weekly working hours, holidays ... overtime, redundancy or sick pay etc and provide a statutory, standard, very short employment contract template ..." it says.

### Minefield

Such policies are not only harmful for employees, they might play less well with the majority of small business owners. The government's annual survey of small and medium enterprises regularly finds regulation comes low on the list of obstacles to growth.

UKIP proposes to strip away workers' rights and rely on 'reputation' and market forces to govern the conditions of employee service – plunging employers into a legal minefield and worsening the economic climate.

Its website explains: "UKIP would legislate to ensure the scope of claims which can be heard by tribunals will be greatly reduced. In particular, limits on unfair dismissal and discrimination claims will be reinstated and no unfair dismissals or discrimination claims would be admitted by the Tribunals in respect of employees with less than two years continuous employment."

These proposals would increase job insecurity for UK workers, encourage bad practices by managers and damage workforce morale as well as the economy, as increasing numbers of workers experience insecure employment and low pay.

UKIP also plans to get rid of all benefits and replace them with a 'basic cash benefit' of around £64 per week for parents aged 25 and above.

On women workers, it says many small businesses "are understandably nervous about employing young women, or try not to promote them to key positions".

Rather than rely on antidiscrimination legislation (which they would repeal), UKIP



would leave it to employers to decide what to offer parents or potential parents.

Women who feel that employers can now discriminate against them with impunity might not have much recourse to the law for redress, since "UKIP would additionally scrap most 'equality and discrimination' legislation, cap all compensation payments and allow common-sense to prevail."

### Legislation

While they do not go into detail as to which parts of equality law they would repeal, they do name provisions around race, sexual orientation and religion or belief as being particularly undesirable and would free private companies providing public services from having to follow equality legislation.

In short, "UKIP will oppose measures in the 'Equality' Bill to force employers in the public sector to discriminate against the indigenous male population".

UKIP's instinct for

decentralisation applies to employment tribunals as well.

"It is far better to allow localised tribunals to build up a body of practical case law and real life examples on what is, and what is not, acceptable, and to occasionally embody these into consolidating statutes, than it is for the government, largely in the name of some 'equality and discrimination' agenda to constantly impose more and more rules on employers."

By implication, case law could differ from one part of the country to another, increasing uncertainty for employers.

One thing is clear – UKIP is not a friend of workers or trade unions. Nor is there an evidence base for their economic and employment policies, which would remove virtually all regulation particularly for small companies.

It believes this would have no negative impact on living standards or economic confidence. It is time the media started asking them some tough questions on jobs and work. ●

■ NARMADA THIRANAGAMA is policy officer for Unison  
This article also appeared in the July edition of *Unison in Focus*



# Is Griffin heading for bankruptcy?

**Matthew Collins on a legal bid that may prevent the BNP leader from standing for re-election in next year's European Elections**

**N**otorious for his shaky grip on finances – his own and those of his party – BNP leader Nick Griffin is being pursued for the courts for bankruptcy. And it could potentially spell the end of his lucrative career as an MEP at Brussels.

Griffin has been dogged throughout his political and personal life by questions about his personal and business acumen, accused of being both foolish and cunning when it comes to money.

It is understood that former party rebel Machaela Mckenzie is going back to court this month in an attempt to get Griffin made bankrupt over unpaid monies. She is still waiting for settlement and legal costs awarded to her in 2010.

On top of this, one of Griffin's former solicitors has recently applied to a court for Griffin's European salary to be docked over unpaid debts.

Added to this are the 'Decembrists', sacked BNP employees whose costs, awards and patience are being rewarded by the offer to represent them against Griffin in a bid to petition for bankruptcy.

Griffin, who disputes all claims, could be forced to appear before a committee of MEPs in Brussels to explain why his salary should not be docked.

In the UK, Electoral Commission rules mean that anyone declared bankrupt cannot stand as a

councillor. Unfortunately, for Griffin, these rules also apply to candidates at the European elections.

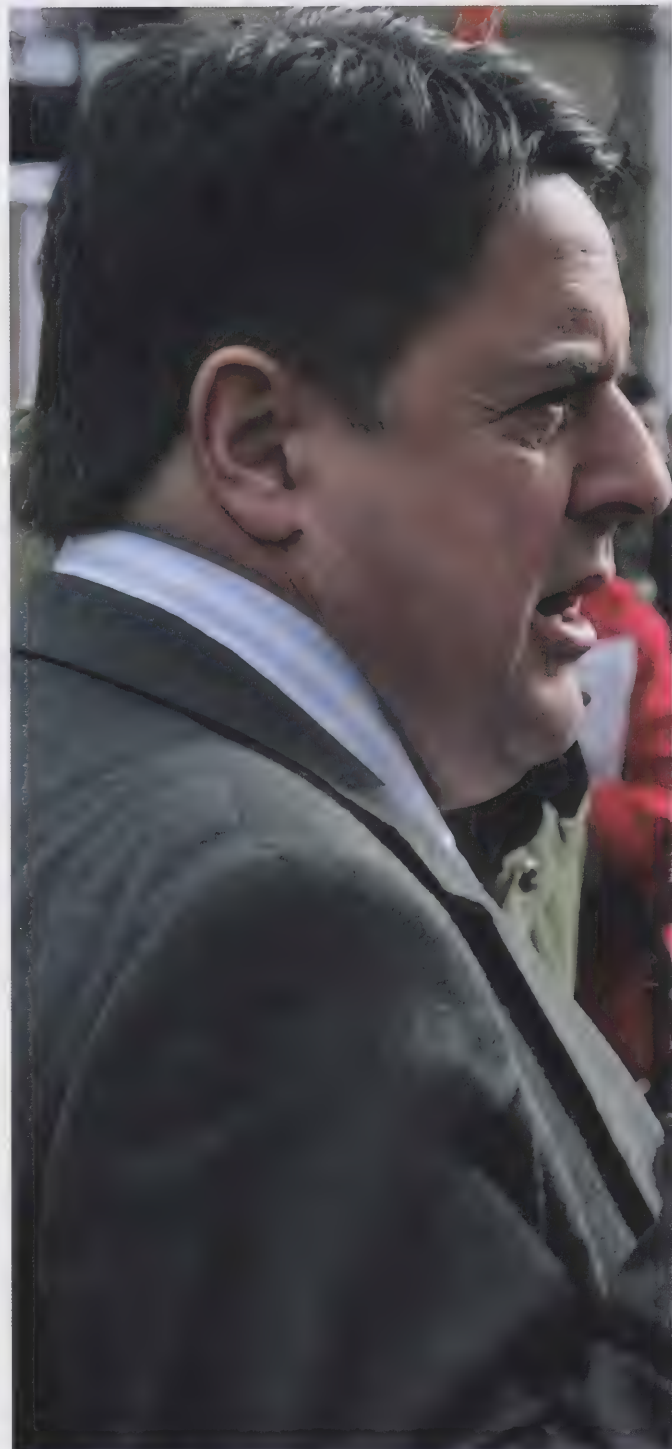
The law states that they cannot stand if:

- they are currently subject to a bankruptcy restrictions order given by a court in England or Wales, or
- their estate has been sequestered by a court in Scotland and they have not been discharged, or
- they are adjudged bankrupt by a court in Northern Ireland, or under the law of Gibraltar.

At the same time, another of his former solicitors has begun proceedings over unpaid fees for a court case that Griffin/the BNP lost and still owe. This is estimated to be in the region of £100,000 including other fees and payments.

In 2011 Griffin, who studied law at Cambridge, tweeted that he was not going to pay one solicitor after he lost a court case instigated by himself. The judge told Griffin he saw the case and the arguments put forward as not substantial enough to have any "realistic prospect of success".

Griffin and party treasurer Clive Jefferson may have bragged in August of this year about their clean accounts, but the party still holds debts of over £400,000. Griffin himself was due to attend court in August (he was on "holiday" so did not appear) to





## Griffin's costly court actions

Nick Griffin has lost a succession of court battles over the last few years which have ended up costing the party several hundred thousand pounds. They include:

challenge a petition for bankruptcy from one law firm.

Griffin, who once had once had his car taken away by the bailiffs, has been involved in a number of get-rich-quick schemes over the years, including buying and selling old bangers which are re-sprayed and sold on to members as "patriotic motors"; a failed attempt at trying his hand at being a commercial printer; and selling puppies, home insurance, life assurance, holidays, mortgages and scrap iron to name a few.

Many of Griffin's living expenses are covered by the BNP (he does not own his own home) but by many accounts he is a generous benefactor to those closest to him.

One former Griffinite told HOPE not hate: "He likes friends, those really close to him, who he takes into his confidence, to be very wealthy. He likes those who he thinks are there to serve him, to be dependent on him financially."

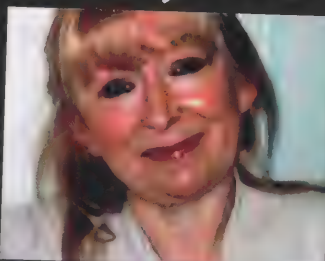
A sign of how vicious money issues can get within the BNP is illustrated by the case of Belfast printer David Sloane, who sentenced to 30 months in prison last year for making threats to Griffin over unpaid bills. Sloane is still owed a substantial amount of money by the BNP and on sentencing was subjected to a torrent of abuse by Griffin's supporters.

**Romac Press**  
**£45,000**



Romac Press was a small printing firm based in Belfast used by the BNP. The company was owned by David Sloan. The BNP refused to pay the bill. David Sloan was later jailed for blackmailing Nick Griffin and his family.

**Michaela Mackenzie**  
**£25,000**



Michaela Mackenzie was a staff member of the BNP who was sacked by Griffin. She took her case to a very acrimonious employment tribunal and won.

**Royal Mail**  
**£57,000**



Unpaid postage from the 2010 General Election.

**Marmite / Unilever**  
**£170,000**



During the 2010 election campaign the BNP thought it would be a good idea to mimic an advert for Marmite. Unilever, the company that owns the Marmite brand were deeply unimpressed and issued court proceedings.

**Decemberists**  
**£120,000**



In December 2007 several members of staff within the BNP openly rebelled against Nick Griffin because of his continued support for Mark Collett and the late Dave Hannam. They were all dismissed. The various court cases, employment tribunals and appeals dragged on for several years before they won their case.

**GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL**

**Newton Press**  
**£16,000**



Newton Press are a company who are based in the North East. They used to print the BNP's monthly newspaper Voice of Freedom. In 2010 the party refused to pay the full bill and offered the printers 20% of the bill.

**Marion Thomas**  
**£2,500**



Marion Thomas was a worker at the BNP call centre in Belfast who was sacked in 2010. She took the party to an employment tribunal and won. Included in the award is £760 because Nick Griffin refused to provide a statement.

**GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL**



# Dog-whistle

**Ruth Smeeth** reports on how the 2015 General Election has already begun and why it's time to take a stand for HOPE over hate and fear

A WEEK may be a long time in politics but if recent events are indicative the next 20 months may feel like an eternity for those of us who care about the type of country we live in. Since the recent spike in the electoral fortunes of UKIP, the mainstream political parties have begun a dangerous game – attempting to out-UKIP UKIP on issues as diverse as immigration, Europe and foreign policy.

The worse example of this shortsighted dog-whistle politics was reflected in a Government pilot targeting illegal immigrants. On 25 July the UK Borders Agency launched a 'pilot' scheme which was in theory designed to encourage illegal migrants to leave the UK voluntarily. The 'pilot' was centred on two advances circulating six London boroughs, Hounslow, Barking and Dagenham, Ealing, Barnet, Brent and Redbridge. The vans advertised contact details of a hotline telephone number migrants could contact to arrange their voluntary return to country of origin.

Mark Harper, the Immigration Minister stated: *'We are making it more difficult for people to live and work in the UK illegally. Every single day our enforcement officers are arresting, detaining and removing people with no right to be in the UK. But there is an alternative to being led away*

*in handcuffs. Help and advice can be provided to those who cooperate and return home voluntarily.'*

While none of us would condone illegal activities, including illegal immigration, the 'pilot' raised many more questions than it answered. Who had been consulted both within the government and within local communities? Who were they actually targeting? Why did the UK Borders Agency choose to initiate the 'pilot' the week after Parliament broke for the summer recess, limiting scrutiny and comment? What was the goal of the pilot? Why were these areas chosen? And most importantly, was any thought given to the impact on community tensions in London only weeks after the horrendous murder of Fusilier Lee Rigby?

## Warning

One thing that could be argued to have a clear impact on this 'pilot' was the findings of a YouGov poll in June of this year which found: When people were asked which party they trust most to handle immigration, UKIP came top, chosen by 25% of the public as a whole, followed by the Tories (18%), Labour (14%) and the Lib Dems (6%). However, as many as 29% trusted none of the four parties. A second and more detailed survey of opinion has been published



by Lord Ashcroft this month and finds similar results.

This 'pilot' however wasn't just about the deployment of the vans, there seems to be a wider strategy afoot. The vans followed on from a Home Office tweet, also in July, warning "There will be no hiding places for illegal immigrants with the new #ImmigrationBill", accompanied by a picture of a handcuffed man of Asian appearance being placed into a van. And five days into the 'pilot' the UK Borders Agency launched an operation at Kensal Green underground

station, an area within the 'pilot' zone, checking the immigration status of commuters. Accusations abounded of racial profiling and heavy-handedness from the authorities. While the government seeks to look tough on immigration, immigrants and asylum seekers, by design or default, it has not helped to decrease community tensions.

This pattern of activity makes it clear that the campaign had little to do with reducing immigration but was the government trying to head off a surge in



# politics

Please contact  
Hazel at [hazel@hopenothate.org.uk](mailto:hazel@hopenothate.org.uk)  
for activities  
in your area  
or to become a  
local campaign  
organiser.



## 604 MPs contacted

Responses in August from 151 MPs

- 76 MPs support the Government's position
- 4 MPs did not have a view
- 71 MPs were against the 'pilot'

## Replied by party

- Conservative – 88 MPs
- Labour – 45 MPs
- Liberal Democrat – 16 MPs
- Green – 1 MP
- Plaid Cymru – 1 MP

151 MPs have responded to their constituents and while the views typically fall on party lines with Labour, Liberal Democrat, Plaid Cymru and Green MPs opposing the activities and Conservative MPs broadly in favour, there have been some notable exceptions.

There is no clear support for the government's position, which provides us with the opportunity to make the case for a more progressive and inclusive approach towards illegal and legal migration. The irony of this is if this really was an attempt on behalf of the Conservative Party to shore up their right flank and out UKIP, UKIP then they failed and Nigel Farage, the leader of UKIP, called them on it:

*"I'm astonished that the Home Office has become so politicised that they're actually advertising 'another 10 arrested'. Before long they'll be live video-streaming*

*these arrests. I don't like it. It really is not the way we've ever behaved or operated as a country. We don't have ID cards; we should not be stopped by officialdom and have to prove who we are."*

Let's hope that this was a flash in the pan and isn't the beginning of a new type of politics, although that seems to be beyond wishful thinking. If nothing else this set of initiatives by the government did create such a backlash that they have had to confirm that it isn't going to be rolled out nationally. The question is: did the government achieve its goal and will it be spurred on to repeat this kind of 'pilot' in the coming months? I hope the answer is no, but I fear that this is just the beginning.

HOPE not hate will be distributing 'We are the Many' leaflets across the country and seeking to mitigate against the worst excesses of these and similar initiatives. ●

support for UKIP. Unless we work together to make our voice heard and quickly then this is the type of politics that we can expect to become mainstream in the run up to the next general election.

Within this context HOPE not hate launched a new type of campaign with our supporters, asking them to canvass their MP. This 'pilot' seemingly came out of the blue, the coalition government had failed to consult key partners, including local police forces and community groups and the Liberal Democrat's

claimed to have had no involvement in the decision-making process, with the Deputy Prime Minister directly criticising the 'pilot'. We simply don't believe that the majority of elected politicians, when asked directly about this 'pilot' and the broader actions of the UK Border Agency, would either welcome or celebrate these policies.

At the beginning of August our supporters from 604 parliamentary constituencies contacted their Members of Parliament and asked their views on this policy. So far



# Small Island – Pull The politics of im

The largest single survey into public opinion over immigration has just been published by Lord Ashcroft poll. Here is a snapshot of the findings:

# 60%

of Britons think Immigration has been bad for Britain. 17% think it has been good and 23% believe the advantages and disadvantages of immigration are about even 23%

# UKIP

**91%** of UKIP voters thought immigration has been bad for Britain

**50%** of UKIP voters chose controlling immigration as the most important issue facing Britain

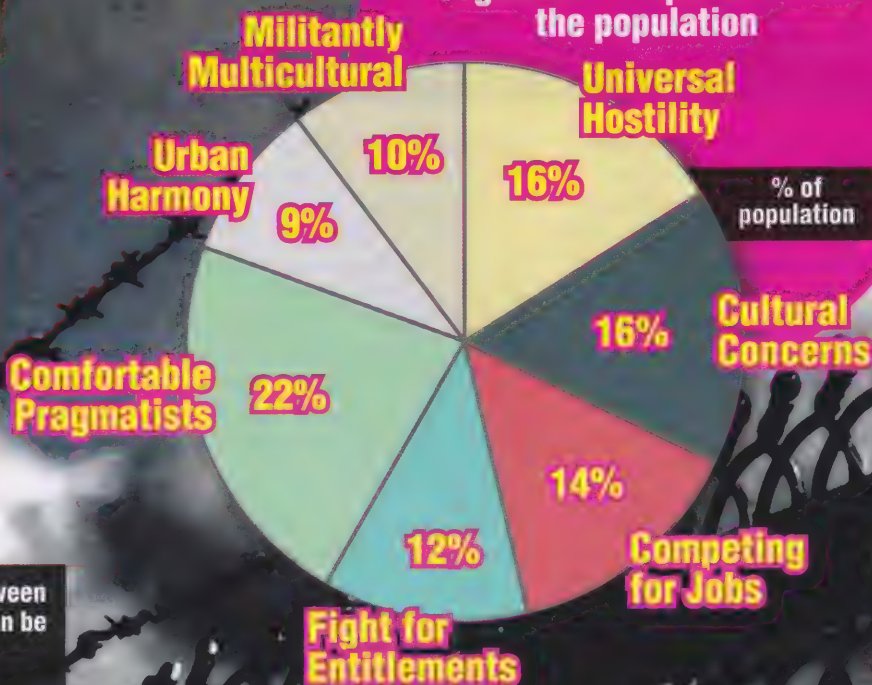
**97%** of UKIP voters thought that reducing the numbers entering Britain would help the economy

# THREE- QUARTERS

77% of people think clamping down on immigration and reducing numbers arriving would help the economy by reducing pressures on public services, cutting the benefits bill and make it easier for British workers to find jobs. 23% think it would be harmful.

# 7 segments

The data was analysed using discriminant analysis to identify seven 'segments' of opinion within the population



\*20,062 adults were interviewed online between 17 and 29 May 2013. The full data tables can be found at <http://lordashcroftpolls.com/>



# Public opinion & migration

## ISSUES

### LABOUR

Labour voters were more concerned than Conservative voters "taking jobs that would otherwise go to British workers, or pushing down wages in general".

### PAINS

#### Most important issues facing the country

- Getting the economy growing and creating jobs 37%
- Controlling immigration 22% \*
- Managing the economy overall 16%
- Cutting the deficit and the debt 6%
- Reforming welfare to cut benefit dependency 5%
- Improving the NHS 5%
- Defending Britain's Interest in Europe 3%
- Dealing with crime 3%
- Protecting the environment 1%

#### Which party do you think has the best approach to dealing with controlling immigration?

Conservative



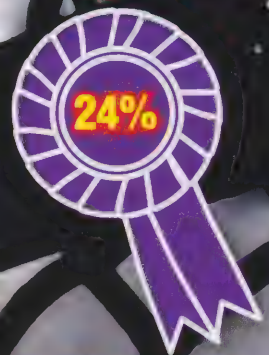
Labour



Lib- Dem



UKIP



BNP



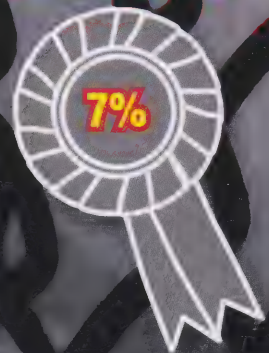
Green



SNP



Another party



Which party do you think has the best approach to dealing with controlling immigration?

Home Office  
Border Agency



HOPE not hate asked a cross-section of experts for their reactions to and views on the poll.



**DON FLYNN**  
(director of Migrant Rights Network)

"The poll seems to confirm the results of many other surveys over the last decade. Given the largely negative tone of public commentary on immigration, involving politicians from all parties and a large part of the media, it does not seem surprising the people's first response is to see immigration as a problem.

"Other polls have shown that the public opinion becomes much more positive when people are invited to express their views on ethnic and cultural diversity in their local areas. Most are in agreement with the view that people get on well together and think that the migrants they work with are good workmates.

"We are encouraged by the fact that, whenever people are asked to consider the issues at greater depth, in terms of their local communities and their actual experience of living alongside migrants, their views are moderated and, as Lord Ashcroft says himself, more nuanced."

**SUNDER KATWALA**  
(director of the think tank British Future, set up recently to address issues of identity and migration)



"The results are not surprising. One of the interesting things about the report is that there is a lot of nuance in public attitudes towards immigration. It shows there is a lot of ground to connect with people – and we need some imaginative ways to do that.

"It's important to work out what conversation reasonable people want to have about immigration and the anxieties they have about immigration, especially if you want to build a public consensus which reaches beyond the 'shut the borders and send them all back' elements.

"Most participants in the workshop agreed that the benefits of immigration were real and felt that a positive vision of a Britain welcoming was what they wanted.

"Ashcroft says that something has changed and something important. Very few people now say that this is a taboo debate. The debate is on and the question is, who has got answers to it? It is very clear that there was a time when people felt you could not talk about immigration.



**MAURICE WREN**  
(chief executive of the Refugee Council)

"Lord Ashcroft's poll findings provide plenty of evidence to support the view that there are no immigration policy solutions to public concerns about immigration, desirable though it may be to Government and others to pretend otherwise. Much of the anxiety expressed by the poll respondents is clearly rooted in the impacts of austerity, whether the underinvestment in, and consequent fierce rationing of, public services, or the economic insecurity that increasingly affects people across all income bands, rather than in the incidence of immigration itself.

"We must respect and engage with these concerns and anxieties, acknowledging that work needs to be done to win public backing for an immigration system that is both fair and credible, but refraining from scapegoating and peddling of the simple untruth that a Britain without immigration would be a country in equilibrium and at peace with itself.

"For NGOs working in the immigration field, the challenge for us is to connect more effectively the work we do to tackle the poverty, destitution, exploitation, insecurity and exclusion faced by our beneficiaries, with that done by our peers in mainstream civil society."

**SARAH MULLEY**  
(associate director of associate director for migration, integration and communities at the Institute of Public Policy Research)



"It's very interesting and helpful to have a poll of this size and range in the debate, and there is a good deal of scope for consensus. It shows there are some people who are very hostile to immigration and lots of people who have more nuanced views.

"The majority of people are in the middle in the debate but they are not really being spoken to. We have this debate that has become very polarised and fixated on numbers. People are open to having a conversation about immigration but nobody is addressing that. Politicians need to find new ways of talking about this and move on from the days when nobody was allowed to talk about it. It's clear that does not work.

"I would like to see politicians talking more about fairness and how we make the system fairer, one in which there are clear rules and everybody makes their contribution.

"In terms of the debate, people are very nervous of anything that might be moving this towards racism. It's quite clear this is not about racism for the vast majority of people."



# CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF HOPE

Founded in 2004 as an antidote to the hate promoted by the BNP, HOPE not hate celebrates our 10th anniversary in 2014. To help us celebrate this fantastic anniversary *Thompson's Solicitors* have sponsored our 2014 calendar, which celebrates each year of our campaign to undermine the BNP at the ballot box.

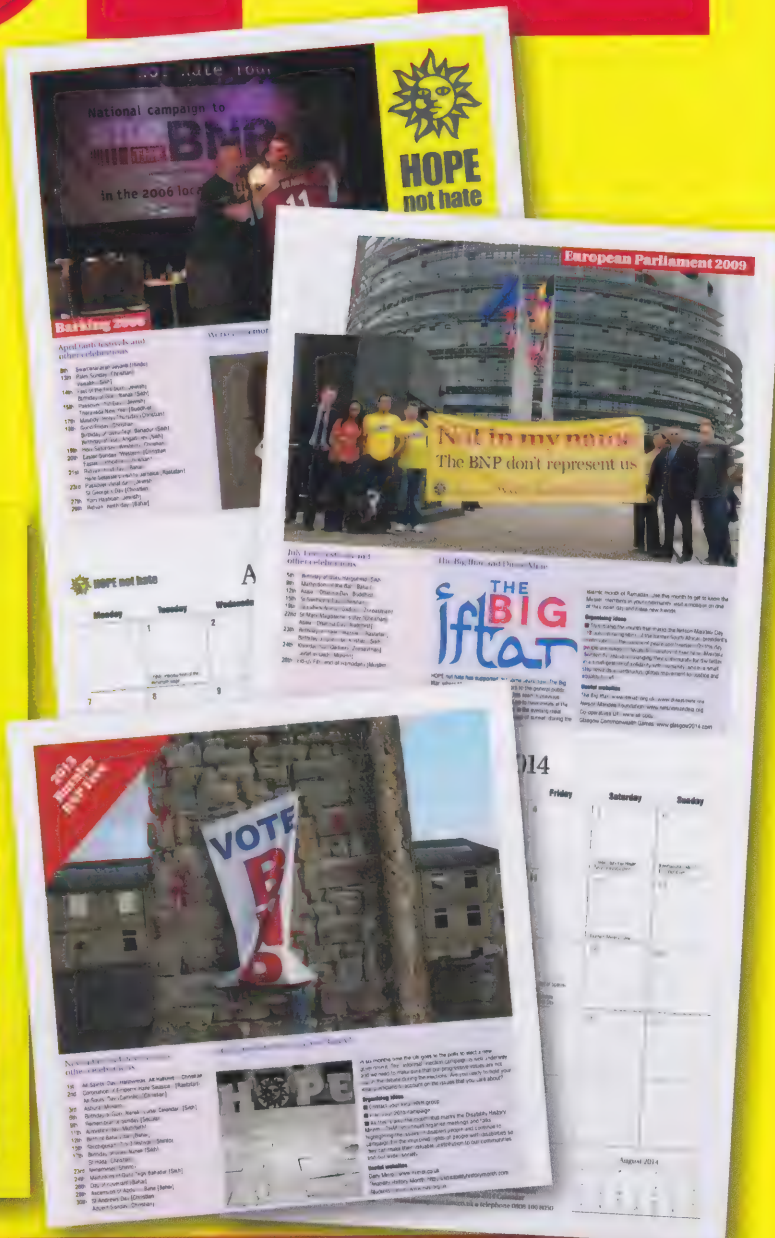


## 2014 CALENDAR

Thompsons Solicitors is proud to sponsor the HOPE not hate 2014 Calendar

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telephone 0800 100 8050

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Buy a copy of the calendar at [www.hopenothate.org.uk/shop](http://www.hopenothate.org.uk/shop) and contact Elisabeth for more details of our planned celebrations for 2014, [Elisabeth@hopenothate.org.uk](mailto:Elisabeth@hopenothate.org.uk)



# The party's small, the party's over

**Matthew Collins** reports on the BNP's ill-fated RWB festival

FIRST THINGS first: let's not talk about the huge elephant in the room. Or the fact you could have fitted an entire herd of elephants on the "nationalist village green" that was the BNP's attempt to resurrect their past glories of the Red, White and Blue festival.

Ok, you're right, let's talk about elephants. Having Martin Reynolds on the gate, fully clothed and uttering vulgarities at the few BNP members who made it to the Welsh borders was the one reassuring thing about having the BNP in a field, in freefall and their fearless leader, plump and procrastinated, welcoming in the strangest of the apparent strangers who bothered to attend.

Oh, where did it all go wrong for the BNP? Ten years ago this empty green field would have been a

mass of thousands of white nationalists, Ferris wheels, French fascists and jubilant BNP councillors.

The rumour mill being what it is, there was plenty to talk about. Nobody bothered to toast the good old days or absent friends, instead it was a melancholic toast over German lagers. Everyone knows someone who has quit the party, even the new members (of which there are some) know people who have left. Like a revolving door, they had introduced themselves on their way out.

## Demise

These days, Nick Griffin is no longer the fearless leader, Britain's great white hope. Where previously he had strolled among the brethren, kissing babies and shaking hands, even avoiding the amorous advances of

septuagenarian poets high on euphoria and Liebfraumilch, this time Griffin was holding the baby, his grandson, tripping awkwardly and clumsily around trying to look down to earth and comfortable among the evidence of his demise.

His own children scowled miserably. The two princesses, Jennifer and Rhiannon, in the past so gloriously distant and aloof, had to mix it with the membership. During the whole weekend, there were never more than 37 people on the camp at one time. Griffin could be seen counting them.

And what of those who had hung around to drag the party down with Griffin? Clive Jefferson did not attend. The excuse was he was on holiday, the *accusation* was that he was stuck in Cumbria having destroyed the party's database. Who knows what is

true anymore? Nobody likes anyone any more.

Adam Walker, party manager, national organiser and serial embarrassment, did not come to avoid a confrontation with Jefferson. No-one from the North East came at all. Simon Darby, the under-utilised press officer, former deputy leader and now Griffin's European office boy, hovered around on Saturday like a bad smell. Or perhaps, someone who's not going to get their money back.

## Disastrous

What was clear is that Darby still doesn't care whether he is liked or not. He was there to do his impersonation of David Dimbleby, the host of the BBC's flagship political show *Question Time*, a long-time obsession for the BNP since Griffin's one and only disastrous appearance on the show back in 2009.

Darby instead compered 'Nationalist Question Time': a recurring theme the BNP has where only BNP members debate with BNP members to questions asked by BNP members to BNP members. It's a little glimpse of what politics will be like under a BNP government. London organiser and pornographer Steve Squire made an appearance, dressed like a porn baron in the clothes of national hunt jockey, accompanied by part-time Madonna impersonator Donna Treanor, from Croydon, branch infamy. The rest of London and Essex







BNP had better things to do, most of them on either EDL or SEA activities.

Violence, European unity and youth appeared to be the theme in the run-up to the "nationalist village green". So despite Griffin banging on and on about the importance of his "Association of European Nationalist Movements" (AENM) on what was later described by the BNP as a "low key training/get together weekend", the only 'European' actually there was Griffin's neighbour Joe the Hungarian who has run the food stall at every BNP shindig ever held in the countryside.

Presumably for old Joe, there was no rubbing shoulders with brethren from Jobbik, the neo-Nazi party the BNP like to associate with from his native Hungary. Nor the opportunity for him to make a good few quid like in times of old off people who racially abuse him. Joe was left trying to flog to English racists a sausage goulash that had turned orange in the pot, for 50p. He had an unsurprisingly baron time of it. Still, at least he was grateful that someone managed to fish his wife Heidi out of the river before she drowned on Friday night.

#### Better days

Barnsley BNP organiser Danny Cooke gave a wonderful display of boxing for the party faithful. The convicted thug

was battered for six rounds by a miserable-looking amateur boxer and blow-in who apparently Griffin had hired on the assumption that Cooke would knock him out. No such luck, and Cooke was literally spitting blood and wishing Adam Walker was there instead.

After the boxing we had Paul Telford giving a martial arts display in "self defence" which seemed, with commentary, more or less like a display of how he would like to decapitate some anti-fascists. For the children there, there was a trampoline which was administered by a Yorkshire BNP member so drunk he could hardly stand, let alone mind children.

Perhaps it's for that reason that the enormous paddling pool was not filled with water. Most of the drunken idiots were using it as a toilet anyway. There were air rifles for shooting too. Nobody should ever take advice from Griffin when it comes to discharging a firearm safely. It seems like they didn't, either.

Yes, the BNP has seen better days. Griffin in particular, looked as if he knows the BNP is almost totally beyond repair, but he's going to flog it to death while he can. Zionist conspiracies, cultural Marxism and electoral fraud, the beauty of the Assad regime in Syria were constant themes throughout the weekend.

The party is over.

# Irrelevant Irving

**Sharron Shooter** examines the return to the UK of Holocaust denier David Irving

THE LAST FEW weeks have seen the 75-year-old pseudo-historian and Holocaust denier David Irving (pictured) drag his revisionist views and a box of discredited, signed books around the country on a tour of small meeting rooms in provincial hotels.

Now based in Florida, his rare tour of Britain took in Southampton, Bristol, Coventry, Manchester, Edinburgh, Peterborough and Oxford and focused on his still unfinished biography of Heinrich Himmler (or Heiney as Irving is reported to have called him throughout the talks).

In a career spanning 50 years and more than 30 books, Irving has managed to travel from relative respectability and best-selling books to an irrevocably discredited academic reputation; neatly expressed by the shift from publishing with Penguin Books to self-publishing under Focal Point.

It seems that Irving's decline has finally gone passed infamy and notoriety and reached irrelevance. Where once he could command large audiences of neo-nazis and Holocaust deniers in the hall and larger ones of press and anti-fascists outside, this latest tour was tiny. Gone were the lecture theatres of old and instead he spoke to groups as small as six in hotel meeting rooms.

However, the tour was not without opposition with small demonstrations at some venues and an article by Simon Osborne of the *Independent* who snuck into a meeting under a friend's name.

Reports suggest that the embarrassingly small groups entered the various conference rooms to be greeted by a table strewn with Irving's books and a CD of World War Two radio reports playing in the background. Richard Dimpleby's haunting report from the Belsen concentration camp cut the eerie and awkward silence as the assorted Holocaust deniers and Hitler fans waited for Irving to join them from the lobby where he forlornly stood waiting for crowds that did not appear.

#### Authenticity

The talks themselves were all very similar and broken into four sections followed by questions with some talks lasting as long as three hours.

The first section dealt with the death of Himmler. Irving claims that far from committing suicide Himmler was murdered while in British custody. As has always been the case with Irving's work, his expert yet selective use of sources creates the mirage of authenticity; that is until he referenced a pen-scribbled note found in a copy of *Waffen SS: An Illustrated History* found in Coventry Public Library.

After the briefest exploration of Himmler's childhood, Irving moved onto what the audience had really been waiting for – the Holocaust. Though still highly revisionist, Irving's views have changed somewhat since his outright denials resulted in a prison sentence in Austria. He now concedes that around 1.2m Jews were killed, nearly five million short of serious estimates, though he still denies the use of gas chambers.

Nowadays his primary crusade has shifted to proving the innocence of Hitler, whom he claims knew nothing of the "final solution to the Jewish Question", and arguing that Hitler struggled to rein in the worst excesses of Himmler's genocidal antisemitism.





# Same tune, d

Matthew Collins reports from Northern Ireland

There's a young Catholic boy in Belfast by the name of Oscar Knox. He's four years old and has Catholics and Protestants alike praying for him. A photograph of him in his full Celtic football kit not only adorns websites and Facebook sites of some of the most hardened Protestant and Unionist groups, but even some bars on Shankill Road have jars collecting loose change for him. Oscar has contracted cancer for a second time. As often the case in Northern Ireland, prayers – like conflict – are shared by everyone.

In waste ground on Twaddell Avenue, north Belfast, tents have been erected and a caravan parked up as members of an Orange marching band and their supporters prepare for a long battle for what they deem to be their “protestant and unionist civil rights”. And it's not a parody, either. More than a month after the traditional protestant celebrations on 12th July ended and were marred by nights of rioting, the Twaddell Avenue camp still erupts every night when marching bands tramp down the avenue to a blue line of police officers blocking their route further into the Ardoyne, an area where Catholics and Protestants live cheek by jowl.

The marchers claim they are being refused their traditional route home – they are, after all, residents of the Ardoyne themselves. On weekends, up to 1,000 people join the parade, sing ‘God Save The Queen’ and listen to speakers

calling for protestors to return home peacefully, to return the next day and the day after that to do it all again.

The protest has barely raised a line of ink on the mainland. But it has its peculiarities all right. Talking about civil rights and digging themselves in for a proposed long battle of wills with the authorities? It's not the traditional picture of the Orange Order or its “kick the Pope” bands. Even since the Good Friday Agreement (GFA), the threat and promise of loyalist paramilitaries appearing masked and menacing has been enough to see even the most contentious parade forced through police lines and nationalist protestors before all hell could really break loose. And hell has often been let loose.

## Unpopular

Since before last year's flag dispute (see *HNH Jan-Feb 2013*), a growing disquiet with the GFA on both sides of the political and religious divide has seen tensions rise on the sink estates and rows of terraced houses, particularly in Belfast. Unionists point to an increase in dissident Republican activity indicating Sinn Féin's unpopularity, and Sinn Féin allegedly responding to its community's criticisms by antagonising working class unionists. Phrases like “ethnic cleansing” and “cultural genocide”, perhaps in previous years just firebrand, and dire neo-biblical warnings by the Paisleyites’ to progressive or working class

Protestants, now seem like a wholly magnified reality to the people like those on Twaddell Avenue.

The removal of the union flag from Belfast City Hall last December not just outraged and humiliated Protestants and unionists, but clearly terrified them too. While nationalists and republicans could hold up the removal of the flag as another step towards making the building, the surrounding city and indeed province, feel more open and accessible to working class unionists who describe themselves as loyalists, articulate it as being some kind of dangerous and destructive appeasement to Sinn Féin's dissident detractors.

The Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) is one of the organisations behind the Twaddell Avenue camp. Despite the union flag bunting and the force-fed notion that all unionists are crypto-fascists and loyalists are manic, sectarian hatchet-men, the PUP describes itself as a centre-left party. Its spokesperson, Winston Irvine, is a well-known figure on loyalist barricades and protests. He's described as a paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) commander by some journalists in the province, but it's not something I feel entirely comfortable putting to him.

Asked why, unlike recent years, the masked men of the UVF have not forced through this march to let everyone go home, Irvine is categorical that violence will not solve the now traditional stand-off





# ifferent song

between marchers, Catholic residents and the police. But, of course, there has been violence and the UVF, like their counterparts in the Ulster Defence Association (UDA), have been accused of orchestrating it.

"The conditions for an armed conflict do not exist here" says Irvine. "This is about how we can *resolve* this issue and build something acceptable to both communities.

"In the darkest of times, when people were still killing each other, the Orange Order has marched through this *shared* space, and now that Sinn Fein has not delivered to the working class nationalist community, it wants to return to demonising and antagonising the Protestant, Unionist and Loyalist (PUL) community."

## Antagonistic

It's not just a simplifying argument by Irvine or the PUP, either. The Catholic and nationalist communities and almost the entire world, see the Orange Order marches not just as sectarian, but as sickeningly "triumphalist". "We can work on that. Both communities share an awful lot of things that antagonise each other, but also a hell of a lot of similarities. Same tunes, different songs."

It's hard to see how the Orange Order can be seen as anything other than antagonistic by Catholic and nationalist communities, but it's not just Irvine and the PUP who see dark clouds on the horizon. One trade union official I spoke to described

the removal of the flag from Belfast City Hall as "almost like a litmus test to see how far you could push Prods.

"And they are being pushed, too. It's not too hard to see that while Sinn Fein is doing a dangerous juggling act with their dual responsibilities as a supposed revolutionary Republican party, they're using all of the vestiges of the British state to curtail the PUL community. They're helping build a stubborn resilience in those communities that makes their greatest fears seem like a reality."

The PUP countered long ago, while under the leadership of the late and former UVF would be bomber David Ervine, that if Ian Paisley's dire warnings ever became a reality, at the very least Loyalists would need a two-pronged response to the discomfort of shared power and the realisation of (some) nationalist aspirations. Gusty Spence, godfather of the modern loyalist paramilitaries, prophesied that "rust" would eventually deal with one of the apparatus more traditionally reached for by nervous loyalists. Both he and Ervine saw not the realisation of nationalist aspiration as the challenge to modern Unionism and Loyalism, but what working class unionists would see in return too.

## Distrust

If republican opposition to a republican party power sharing with unionists is the re-engaging for some with the physical force tradition, then for the PUL community

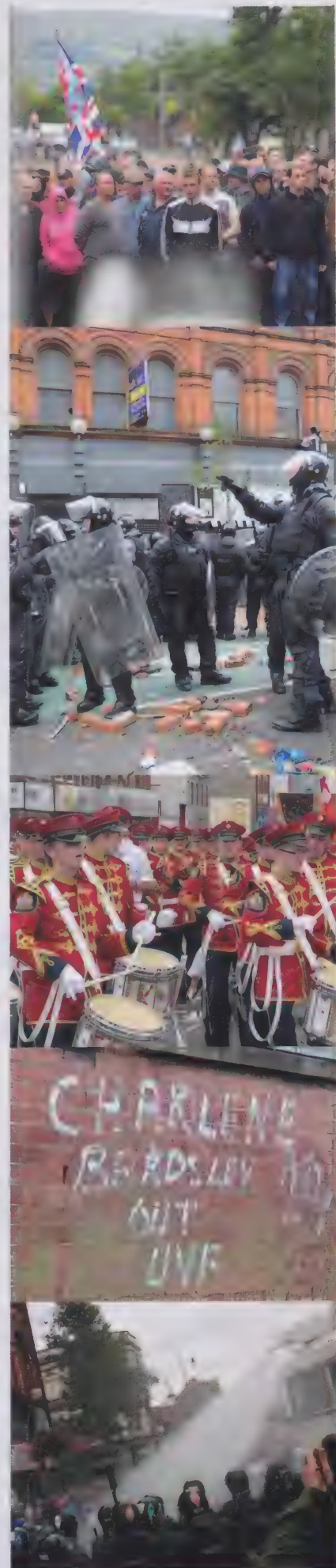
the race for them is to replace the unionist old guard too. Twaddell Avenue has an abundance of PUP bunting advertising the party as defending the civil rights of the bands to "return" to the Ardoyne, while a "Protestant coalition" separate from the PUP and with the aide of former BNP fundraiser Jim Dowson has vowed to remove and replace every Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) member that sits with their accused tormentors (Sinn Fein,) in the Stormont Assembly.

"We talk a lot here in Northern Ireland about a shared future" says Irvine, "but all that we see shared is poverty and distrust."

Who knows what lies ahead for Northern Ireland in the future. The shared peace dividend may be power sharing, democracy and "greater scaffolding at Stormont" as Irvine describes it, but in the words of one nationalist commentator, the Stormont stalemates over economic inactivity, employment and cultural inclusion could be "pushing the Prods to the brink of sanity."

Oscar Knox was diagnosed with neuroblastoma in mid-August. His devastated parents described on their blog his "excruciating pain" and watching their son being administered morphine.

Up the Shankill and down the Falls roads, like the poverty, economic inactivity and cultural insecurity, Protestant and Catholic, Unionist and Nationalist shared their prayers for their "wee fighter".





# CHILE TIMELINE

1970

Salvador Allende elected with a Socialist government – US fears “irreversible Marxist regime”.

1971

Chile visited by Fidel Castro, sparking further US worries of move to single party state.



Fidel Castro visits Salvador Allende in Santiago, 1971

1972

Economic crisis forces devaluation of the escudo and inflation rises to 140%. Fearing rise of a black market, government takes over distribution of basic goods.

OCT 1972

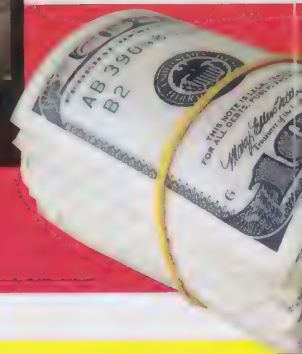
General strike paralyses country – involves some unions and students, as well as businesses. Head of army, Gen Carlos Prats brought into government to appease right wing.

MAR 1973

Allende receives 43% of vote in elections with Popular Unity coalition – opposed by right-wing Christian Democrats and National Party. Conflict between executive and legislature paralyses machinery of government – CIA pays \$6m to opposition groups to undermine coalition and bring Allende down.



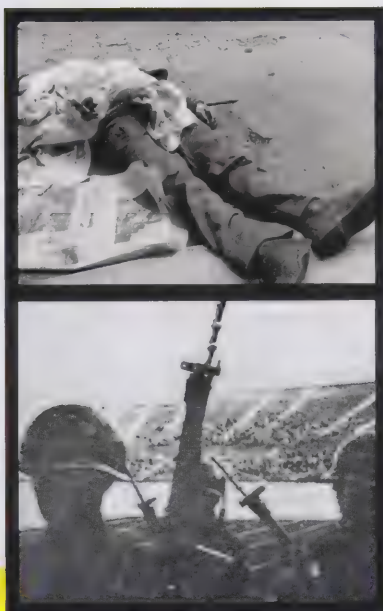
Salvador Allende with Carlos Prats and other commanders of the armed forces of Chile. Photo: Biblioteca del Congreso Nacional



1998

AFTERMATH

Pinochet loses plebiscite and is eventually removed from power two years later.



In aftermath of coup, thousands of left-wing activities murdered or ‘disappeared’. Army holds 13,000 political activists in the National Stadium of Chile, selectively torturing and killing many and incarcerating many in concentration camps.

130,000 people arrested over next three years, many of them part of the “desaparecidos” or the “disappeared”, including many foreigners. Military junta dissolves Congress and outlaws political activity as well as all parties which made up the Popular Unity coalition.

SEP 1973

Armed forces advance on the palace but come under fire from the Allende's bodyguards, known as the Group of Personal Friends (GAP). Chilean air forces begin bombing the palace. Allende commits suicide with an AK-47, he was 65.





# 1970-1998

General Augusto Pinochet

MAY 1973

JUN 1973

AUG 1973

Supreme Court accuses government of acting illegally in failing to uphold judicial rulings.

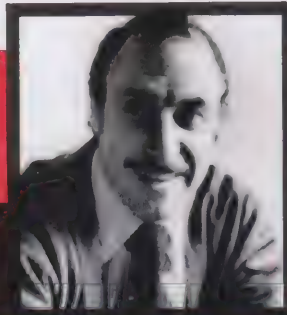
Army surrounds La Moneda presidential palace with tank regiments in failed bid to depose Allende in what is known as the 'Tanquetazo tank putsch'. Government accused of acting unconstitutionally by Chamber of Deputies - calls on military to re-establish order.

General Augusto Pinochet appointed army commander-in-chief. Army uses tear gas to dispel crowd of 100,000 women who had gathered outside Plaza de Constitucion to protest against food shortages.

Chilean soldiers at the south side of La Moneda during the Tanquetazo tank putsch



Defence minister Orlando Letelier becomes first prisoner of coup (later to be murdered by the regime while living in the US).



Salvador Allende

SEP 1973

SEP 1973

AUG 1973

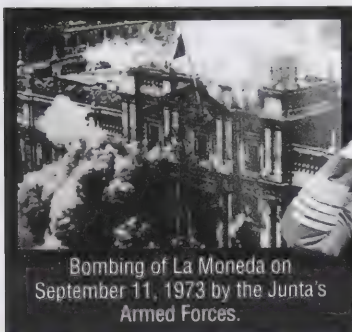
AUG 1973

Allende refuses to resign from office despite not being in command of armed forces which now control the country. He is advised by his own party to flee but refuses to do so and makes an emotional farewell speech to the nation saying that he will not resign under threat from the military.

Navy captures port of Valparaiso, deploying troops to close down radio and TV stations. Allende moves to presidential palace with bodyguards. Pinochet and other generals refuse to take calls from him.

Allende responds by saying declaration does not carry two-thirds support of Senate and calls on workers to defend revolutionary process

Chamber of Deputies accuses Allende of raft of constitutional breaches including abuse of legislative process; state control of media; allowing arming of left-wing protestors; limiting emigration; and suppressing El Teniente miners strike.



Bombing of La Moneda on September 11, 1973 by the Junta's Armed Forces.

The Military Junta: Gustavo Leigh, Augusto Pinochet, José Toribio Merino and César Mendoza





# Learning to walk in a Chilean

**It is 40 years ago this month that the Chilean military overthrew an elected Government. Dave Porter looks back on those fateful events and the on-going struggle for justice today.**

ONE of the more grim reminders of Maria Vasquez-Aguiler's childhood is that of learning to walk in a Chilean concentration camp.

Her mother was six months pregnant with Maria when her father – a student – became one of the 'disappeared' picked up off the street by the junta's henchmen for his activities with the MIR, the Revolutionary Left Movement.

He ended up in the infamous Villa Grimaldi camp renowned for the torture and murder of political prisoners. After a long search, Maria's dad was found by her mum who was allowed to visit him in the camp, along with her brothers and sisters.

"You can imagine what an awful time she had looking for my dad," said Maria, who is chairwoman of Chile40YearsOn, formed earlier this year to commemorate the victims of the coup in Chile in 1973 which toppled Salvador Allende.

Maria's dad was one of the lucky ones in the camp – international pressure forced the Pinochet regime to release political prisoners and he was among the chosen few.

She said: "People would make a list of those most in danger of being killed. My dad was released as a fluke really – it was very clear he was not going to last out in the camp."

Initially, Maria's parents were offered plane tickets to Italy but they refused these as it would have meant leaving their five children behind. Instead the family came to Britain in 1978 and were put up in a refugee hotel in Notting Hill before being housed by Rotherham Council.

Maria, 38, a college tutor, says the question of justice for the disappeared – or the 'desaparecidos' – is a "massive issue" for Chile and that until the 1998 plebiscite the country suffered from collective amnesia. But with the findings of the Torture Commission, the country is finally



Isabel Cortes and daughter Maya

opening up to its past.

"Both my dad and my mum were officially recognised as victims of the regime. It was very painful for them to give evidence to the Commission – what my dad had to do was basically relive what happened to them. It meant getting in contact with people from around the world he had not spoken to in 30 years, for corroboration," she said.

"One woman thanked him because he had actually been in a torture chamber next to her and told her stories to keep her going. They formed this friendship but they had never actually met. She thought he had died."

The Commission has granted pensions to families of victims of the regime, as well as the right for exiles to return and their children the right to free education.

Maria said: "Before 1998 and the Torture Commission the government had said that torture had been done by rogue members of the armed forces. Then they had to recognise that torture and murder had been a systematic tool of the state."

She added: "There has been no official inquiry into the disappeared. There are 2,000 people who we don't know where

they are – and many of them were so young. We don't know where they are buried, there is no grave to mourn them."

And there is still political work to be done in Chile, says Maria, pointing to the fact that the 1980 constitution drawn up by Pinochet is still in place.

"There is still massive inequality, the gross national product may be high but a lot of people go without, education is not free and there are high levels of depression," she said.

Chile was used as a brutal testing ground for the newly-emerging neo-liberal economics of Milton Friedman and a group of economists known as the 'Chicago Boys'.

Repressive economics were matched by repressive political measures: thousands incarcerated and tortured, trade unionists targeted, party politics dissolved, and one million people sent into exile – many to the UK. 10,000 people were held as political prisoners while the number of people who disappeared or were killed by the regime officially stands at 3,065.

Isabel Cortes, 41, came to England from Chile when she was five, her trade unionist parents having to flee the regime. Her dad



# concentration camp



(top) Maria Vasquez-Aguiler  
(above) Leaving Chile with her family

worked for the Agrarian Reform Programme and was arrested and tortured first in Chile and then in Argentina where he sought what the family thought would be a safe haven.

She sees parallels with what is happening today in the UK and Chile in the '70s, particularly with the imposition of austerity measures, and is acutely aware of the need for Britain to be a welcoming country for those fleeing persecution from abroad, or simply to seek a better life.

She said: "My earliest recollection is of the refugee hotel we stayed in in Shepherd's Bush. We did feel welcomed – when we later arrived in Northamptonshire there was a welcoming committee waiting for us – the Chile Solidarity Campaign, the local branch of the TGWU, the local church and the Quakers.

"These were people who helped us in very practical ways to integrate."

Isabel, a committee member of Chile40YearsOn who now works for a trade union herself, remembers her first trip back to Chile when she was 16 and had just finished her O Levels. The fact that it was the same year as the plebiscite to try and oust Pinochet made the trip extra special.

"When I arrived in Chile I was really shocked because I'd had this strong political upbringing – my mum was one of the Greenham Common women – and I expected the same there, but despite the NO campaign, which was very positive and looking for an alternative, people were very subdued," she said.

Isabel has been back to Chile many times since and now takes her six-year-old daughter with her. She says that with the passing of time there is a pressing need for justice for those campaigning on behalf of the *desaparecidos*.

"The grandmothers and mothers are getting on now so there is that sense of urgency. We are organising an event which

focuses on Chilean women to pay tribute to those who suffered under the regime. One of the things we are campaigning for is to make sure that the people in Chile directly responsible for abuses are held accountable. Until now there has not been the political will to do that," she added.

As a second-generation Chilean living in London, Isabel says it is vitally important to recognise the role played by the trade unions and other solidarity groups in both welcoming the 3,000 or so refugees to the country and their continuing link-up with protest movements in Latin America today.

"There is a really strong student movement in Chile trying to reconnect everything that Allende stood for – universal education and welfare – and asking for a complete change," she said.

Victor Figueroa-Clark is second-generation Chilean who has just written a political biography of Allende, entitled *Salvador Allende: Revolutionary Democrat*. His Chilean father was an exile from the regime who married his English mother in his homeland.

Victor, a lecturer in history at the LSE, also sees clear links between the student – and trade union – movement today in Chile and the fight for progressive politics led by Allende.

He said: "The student and workers movement at the moment, what we see is that they are fighting for the same things Allende fought for during his life: democracy, education, control of Chile's natural resources, healthcare, and the rights of indigenous people.

"In fact, Allende was a big advocate of indigenous rights – he moved ministries out into the regions because of this. Before he came to power there had been widespread abuses of the indigenous people in Chile."

Victor says that the popular image of the coup as being inevitable because of the influence

of the US and the strength of the military is ill-founded.

"I don't think that is actually the case – it was much more of a close-run thing. Pinochet did not join the generals until the day before. If a small military force had stood up for the government, things could have been entirely different," he said.

"Pinochet always tried to make out he was a senior planner of the coup but the records show he was an opportunist."

As for Allende himself, Victor says it was his reforms in healthcare, education and redistribution of the economy which made him a revolutionary figure for Latin America and the wider world, something which can be seen today in leaders such as Hugo Chavez.

■ Chile40YearsOn is hosting a range of events during September to commemorate the downfall of Allende and to remember the victims of Pinochet's regime, including a picket of the Chilean Embassy and an event to celebrate the special role that women played in fighting for the disappeared. For details visit <http://chile40yearson.org>



# White

**Nick Lowles and Simon Cressy take a look at the white power music scene in the UK**

TWENTY YEARS ago this month, Ian Stuart Donaldson was killed in a car crash in Derbyshire. The lead singer of Skrewdriver, the most infamous White Power band in the world, Donaldson was credited with founding Blood and Honour, an umbrella group for the neo-nazi skinhead scene.

More importantly, given how political parties had exploited and milked the white power scene, it was supposed to be a movement for skinheads, run by skinheads.

In the 20 years since Ian Stuart's death, Blood and Honour has become a worldwide phenomenon, with divisions in most countries across Europe, North America and Australia.

However, the scene is not what it used to be and a combination of police action, tight race laws, petty feuding and changing fashion, has seen the White Power music scene contract almost everywhere in the last 10 years.

Yet Britain retains a special place in the international movement. It is, after all, where it all began.

Later this month an estimated 4-600 people will attend the annual Ian Stuart Memorial gig, but the size of this event will be

the exception rather than the norm.

Today, gigs attract no more than 100-200 people and most of those attending are the same people who have been going for the last 15 years. There are very few young people coming into the scene and Blood and Honour and it is now little more than a weekend hobby for most of those involved, rather than a way of life like it was for those involved in the 1980s.

Blood and Honour was set up as a consequence of Nick Griffin's exploitation of White Power bands in his 1980s National Front days and the movement was used as a cash cow by Combat 18. Perhaps because of these experiences, Blood and Honour has become almost totally detached from the wider far right political scene.

The British Movement has the closest links with the Blood and Honour scene, particularly in London, Kent and the East Midlands. Some Blood and Honour supporters in Wales, Yorkshire and the North East are also involved in the National Front.

The leadership of Blood and Honour includes Simon Dutton, Ken McKellen, Benny Bullman, Dave Braddon, Ginger Rob and Micky Lane.





# Noise



Whitelaw



Legion of St George



Nemesis



## Pirate 28

AS ITS name suggests, Pirate 28 was a separate division of Blood and Honour, organising gigs initially in the London area and then in the South West, and was run by the Volksfront UK.

Its two key figures were Kirk Barker and Graham Thompson.

Thompson was the lead singer in Avalon and was a central part of the B&H network until he was frozen out after a dispute over money.

Barker is the leader of the Volksfront UK, the British chapter of an American organisation which was established in 1994 but was smashed last year by the FBI. However, it continues in several European countries.

Barker was an old-time B&H heavy who, in 1993, was sentenced to three years imprisonment for his part in a violent attack on Indian restaurant staff after a Blood and Honour gig.

In 1995, after coming out of prison, Barker was a founding member of the British Hammerskins, before switching allegiance to the National Socialist Movement. It was in his role as NSM regional organiser that Barker was raided by

police following the arrest of David Copeland, the London nailbomber, who was also in the NSM.

Barker is now living in the Trowbridge area of Wiltshire, close to a number of other Volksfront UK activists and the group's mission is to establish an Aryan Homeland.

Pirate 28 have organised a couple of concerts supported by the Racial Volunteer Force, whose leader, Mark Atkinson, is known to Barker.

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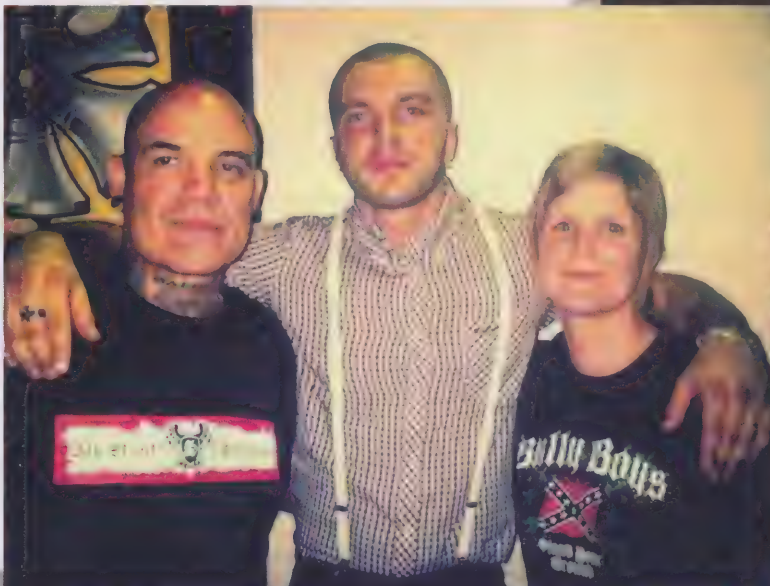
# Oi! For England

**RUNNING PARALLEL** to the Blood and Honour White Power music scene is what is believed to be a more mainstream and non-extremist 'Oi' scene. However, there is a clear cross-over between some elements of the Oi! Scene and the neo-Nazi white power scene.

These connections are best exemplified by Vicky Pearson, organiser of British Oi Productions and who is also active in Blood and Honour (B&H), both in attending gigs but also closely linked to many of its leading members over the last 20 years.

British Oi Productions was established two years ago and organises Oi! gigs around the country, like the forthcoming event in Bathgate later this month, and will soon be bringing out a Oi compilation CD.

Vicky Pearson with Brutal Attack's Ken McKellan



## PRESSURE 28

ONE OF THE MOST active bands currently on the Oi! Scene, Pressure 28, is led by Kevin Gough, a hardline and violent nazi who has been linked to the International Third Position and Combat 18 over the years.

He is also a well-known football hooligan and runs with Oldham's Fine Young Casuals. In 1997 Gough was imprisoned for four months for distributing anti-Semitic and anti-immigrant material and in 2001 he was also given a three-year banning order for football hooliganism in 2001 for his part in trouble at a match between Oldham Athletic and Stoke City. The trouble was the pre-cursor for the infamous Oldham riots a few weeks later.

The band was first formed in the early 1990s and later reformed in 2009. They claim the name Pressure 28 comes from a local scooter club of the time, and refers to the psi of a rear Lambretta tyre, but of

course the '28' could also refer to the letters 'BH' – abbreviations for Blood & Honour.

Gough is close to Vicky Pearson and organised an Oi gig in Blackpool in August.





## TATTOOED MOTHER FUCKERS

TATTOOED Mother Fuckers is one of the more prolific and well-known bands on the Oi! scene, playing regularly in UK, Europe and sometimes North America. Hailing from Leicester, they were formed by English Rose and Bulldog Breed front man Steve 'Jonesy' Jones.

Jones was until recently a key organiser in B&H and ran the Rampage Records label, whose stock has sold on to Ginger Rob, who heads B&H Security.

TMF has released CDs through Barracuda Records (Italy) and Backstreet Noise Music (Germany), both of whom have links to B&H.

In 2008 TMF recorded a handful of songs for an arranged split with a Polish neo-nazi band 'The Gits' but due to a misunderstanding and lack of communication the release never came about and the deal was cancelled. Will Browning was involved with funding "The Gits" and the lead singer of the band gave evidence on Brownings behalf in 2009.

The band's manager is Coventry-based Jade Griffiths (pictured left). As our photo shows, she is quite open about her politics.



TMF frontman Steve Jones and the band manager Jade Griffiths (left)

## FLATHEAD: FH33

ESTABLISHED by 'Frenchie', the former Skrewdriver bassist, who left the band back in 1986 to join the parachute regiment. He was to serve in the British Army and photos of him posing with guns were re-produced in Blood and Honour magazines during the early 1990s.

He served in the British Army for 13 years before travelling and then heading to Iraq as a private security guard.

In a recent interview, he said that 'White Power' was his favourite Skrewdriver song "cos it just said it all." Flathead is, of course, another form of Skrewdriver.

The band recently played at a two-day Oi festival in Margate.



F33 signer 'Frenchie' (right) and posing with Ian Stuart Donaldson (below)



Kevin Gough, frontman of Press 28 (left), on a C18 protest in 1999

## ANOTHER OTHERS

**CODE 1** insists it is not a political band, though it does share some of its band members with Section 88, a well-known B&H band. Gigs have seen them give nazi salutes and the band was recently kicked off a bill for a Help for Heroes gig in Stoke-on-Trent after protests from other bands.

**STREET PUNK DRUNKS** is an Oi band from Liverpool. Its lead singer is Shauny Shaun, a regular at B&H gigs.

**STEEL COMB** is a Scottish Oi band, whose lead singer has been involved in Blood and Honour.

**SUPER YOB'S** lead singer is Frankie Flame (pictured right), a long-time supporter of the British Movement.

**BREAKOUT** is an Oi band from the North East and is also the name of a famous Skrewdriver song. The lead singer was previously in a Rock Against Communism band Strikeforce UK.



## LAST ORDERS

AN OI BAND from London, Last Orders is fronted up by John 'Slaz' Henderson, who remains close to Will Browning and the remnants of Combat 18.

Slaz is also lead singer in the pro-Combat 18 bands Chingford Attack and the Blackshirts.



John 'Slaz' Henderson, sings in both Last Orders (left) and C18 band, the Blackshirts (right)





# Background music

By Nick Lowles

COMBAT 18 might have disappeared from public view, but the organisation and its music network have not gone away. ISD Records continue to exist, gigs continue and there are still a number of bands in the Combat 18 orbit.

Will Browning still leads the group, though these days he appears to live outside the UK.

One or two gigs are held a year but most appear to be small and invite-only. Most of the action occurs overseas, such as the ISD Memorial gig being put on later this month in "central Europe".

The UK bands which remain in the C18 orbit are Chingford Attack, Blackshirts, IC1 and No Remorse.

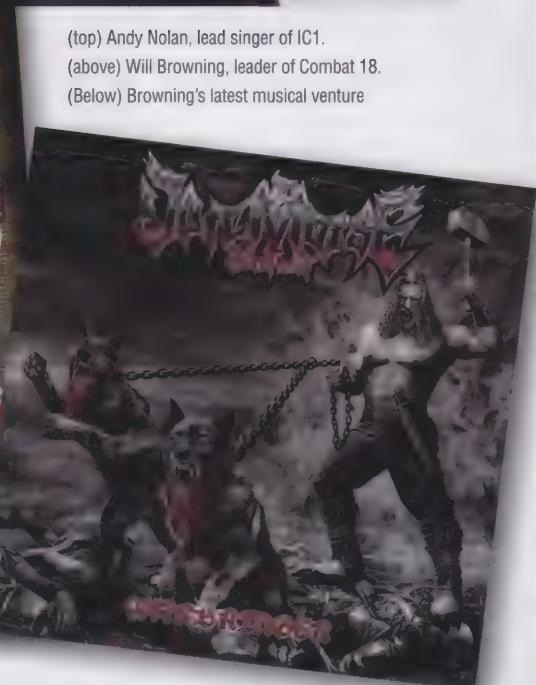
John 'Slaz' Henderson is lead singer for both Chingford Attack and Blackshirts, while Andy Nolan, previously from Razors Edge, is the lead singer of IC1. No Remorse is pretty much still intact from the old days, with Jacko as lead singer and Will Browning and Gary Smith also in the band.

Last month, No Remorse played at a concert in New Jersey, USA. In recent years, it has also played in Germany, Slovakia and Poland.

Browning, meanwhile, has broadened out his musical repertoire and with other members of No Remorse has moved into the Black Metal/Death Metal scene. A couple of years ago they began a band called No Remorse, No Retreat but so far have limited their music to CDs. Even on the group's website and promotional material band members wear masks and hide their identities.

No Remorse, No Retreat operates under the Iron Age Records label, founded in 2007 with the aim to "discover and promote pagan and black metal." The label is believed to be another music business which is linked to Will Browning, and illustrates a rise in this genre of music across Europe.

Interestingly, Gary Smith, who is in both No Remorse and No Remorse, No Retreat was previously in Death in June and Sol Invictus, two of the best-known bands in the pagan scene.



(top) Andy Nolan, lead singer of IC1.

(above) Will Browning, leader of Combat 18.

(Below) Browning's latest musical venture



# Hate in the USA

**Ian Kelly dissects the US neo-Nationalist Oi scene**

HERE IN NORTH AMERICA, there is a small but thriving neo-Nationalist skinhead music scene – one whose members raise like a flag those who hail nationhood and heritage over those who coalesce solely around race, and whose members uphold the skinhead identity as an ethnicity. Many argue they are “apolitical,” but – to echo Orwell – they openly forgo the passivity of patriotism in favor of the “rivalry and resentment” that uncannily fires street-level nationalism.

Enter Raf Stomper (stage name). With his mirrored aviator shades and ‘Quebec Stomper’ crew hand tattoos, the lead singer of Montreal’s *Légitime Violence*, one of the most popular bands within the scene, Raf is recognised as something of a ‘Skinhead Superstar’. Lending to that, of course, is that *Légitime Violence* cover ‘Skinhead Superstar’, originally written by neo-Nazi/RAC outfit the Bully Boys (USA).

In an interview posted February 2013 on a Russian skinhead blog, Raf maintains that his band is “apolitical.” In the same interview, however, Raf says: “I was a punk, like most skins here. [sic] But I listened to a lot of Oi!, RAC (Rock Against Communism), and in addition was a nationalist and that motivated me to join the movement.”

Of Quebec Stomper’s origins, he says: “We were formed in 2004 as an association of anti-red nationalists and skinheads.” He brags about pepper

spraying anti-fascists and lauding Russia’s violent skinheads, adding: “We all know that there are a lot of skinheads in Russia, we have heard that they really love violence, and that they know how to take care of anti-fascists. Three very important things.”

Placing such quotes alongside images of *Légitime Violence* playing live before stage banners adorned with variations of Quebec’s flag and Fleur-die-lis, emblazoned with ‘SKINHEAD’ and the slogan ‘Honneur et Patrie’ makes it impossible to buy the politics-of-no-politics Raf and his crew are selling. (‘Honor and Fatherland’ is the motto of France’s Legion of Honor; the slogan was also co-opted by legendary French RAC band *L’Infanterie Sauvage* in 1983.)

This “apolitical” defense mechanism permeates the movement in North America, as does a love for Britain’s once-rampant RAC scene and the bands that defined its sound in the ‘80s. In fact, a romancing of the glory days of RAC is one of the defining characteristics of the neo-Nationalist music scene, one that erodes any collective claim of harmless patriotism. Covering songs by RAC bands from around the globe is a high universal staple of albums and live shows. It is this collective nostalgia, rapt by the rituals and sound of RAC, which underpins their generalised vocabulary of hostility directed towards anyone deemed lesser-thans by these ‘true-Oi!’ skins



(ie ‘non-PC’ and ‘anti-communist’).

## Skinhead festivals

At times, though, the ambiguity draped around the ‘rivalry and resentment’ directed towards outsiders is dropped. During the chorus of *Infestation* by Orange County, California’s Brassic, lead singer and bassist Mongo screams over backing vocal: “Work! Work! Work, work, work! Work to clean our nation! Work! Work! Work, work, work! Fuck off, infestation!”

The verses bemoan the influence of “blacks,” “rap music and all that shit,” multiculturalism, and seemingly immigrants, as well.

Brassic and *Légitime Violence* both have records out on Hostile Class Productions, run by Robert ‘Witek’ Galbogi of Chicago, IL. Like his bands, Witek is also rather taken with the neo-nationalist worldview and its inherent love of RAC. He has put out *English Rose*, for example. He often travels internationally for neo-nationalist shows and skinhead festivals. His roster of bands reflects his travels and networking ability, but also further highlights the movement’s overlap with

RAC-styled neo-Nazism. To date, through HCP, Witek has released *Steelcapped Strength* (B&H/Sweden), *Blood Red Eagle* (Volksfront/Australia), *Aggro-Knuckle* (SSS/Japan, toured Japan summer 2013 with *Bound For Glory*), *Kill Baby, Kill!* (Germany), and others.

By mid-September 2013, *Légitime Violence* will have played Italy with other neo-nationalist bands, some of which are openly neo-Nazi, like *Legittima Offesa*. At a fest in June 2014 in Bathgate, Scotland, Brassic will share the stage with Germany’s aging neo-Nazi/RAC outfit *EndStufe*, among others.

What is certain, though, is that the North American neo-nationalist skinhead movement will continue to cross waters and borders, especially with labels like Hostile Class Productions eager to amplify this re-manifesting of the glory days of RAC. Such is the drive to network from those within North America’s scene, and factoring in the reciprocity from those abroad, neo-*Inter-Nationalist Oi!* is perhaps an even more accurate definition of the worldview that unifies the purveyors and practitioners of this movement’s music scene. ●



# PURPLE RAIN

## PUTTING UKIP UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

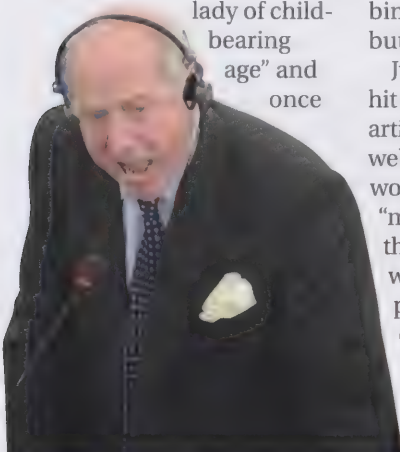
### UKIP MEP In Bongo Bongo Rant

GODFREY BLOOM, UKIP MEP for Yorkshire and Humber, has been recorded telling activists that the UK shouldn't be sending foreign aid to "Bongo Bongo Land".

Bloom was filmed speaking at a UKIP meeting in Wordsley, near Stourbridge where he claimed foreigners used the aid to buy Ray-Ban sunglasses and apartments in Paris.

Bloom has previously caused controversy over some of his comments about women. The MEP was criticised for asking why businesses would ever hire "a

lady of child-bearing age" and once



said he wanted to get involved in women's rights issues because: "I just don't think they clean behind the fridge enough."

He added: "I am here to represent Yorkshire women who always have dinner on the table when you get home. I am going to promote men's rights."

Following the unsurprising outcry over his comments Bloom attempted to make the situation right by inviting a group of female students to Brussels, but was overheard saying of one of them: "Isn't she the most delicious bimlette? Absolutely thick, but good tits."

Just a few days later Bloom hit the headlines again after an article for an online political website where he claimed that women are better at finding "mustard in the pantry" than driving cars and said women were genetically programmed to be less keen on work than men.

Bloom has been ordered by the UKIP leadership never to use the term "Bongo Bongo" again.

### UKIP MEP In Child Sex Comments Storm

ROGER HELMER, MEP for the East Midlands, has been heavily criticised following comments he made on a radio show when he claimed that 15-year-old girls can consent to sex with pop stars. Responding to the Eddie Shah case, where the former press baron was cleared of raping a girl in the 1990s, Helmer said: "Suppose a 15-year-old girl is at a club

with a pop star, and he says 'how about it, dear'? and she says 'yes please, I was hoping you'd ask'. In most people's book, that constitutes consent. Legally, she cannot consent, but in real terms, she can."

Roger Helmer also claimed that if an underage child asked for sex then they were contributing to the problem.

### No Such Thing As Bad Publicity?



UKIP HAVE had their fair share of publicity this year, most of it being bad with countless indiscretions and gaffes being revealed in the national media. As a result, the busiest people in UKIP are their national press officers who have the unenviable task of limiting the fallout from the steady stream of howlers.

With their heavy workload in mind I found it a little surprising that one of their press officers had been busy making countless indiscretions of her own. Alexandra Phillips describes herself as head of media for Nigel Farage and UKIP on her LinkedIn profile. She has also recently been described as UKIP's head Of press in an article by Channel 4 journalist Cathy Newman.

A former BBC and ITV journalist, the 29 year old is not averse to making her own offensive comments.

She frequently mocks the disabled, often referring to herself or others as "Spaz"

or "Spasticated" and refers to an online friend of hers as an "Autistic w\*\*ker".

In another posting she claims that "She is hungrier than a Biafran", a disgusting reference to the huge numbers of people who starved to death during the Nigerian-Biafran War in the 1960s.

She has even said that she "is bored of being Anne Frank," a sick link to the tragic tale of the young Dutch girl who hid from the Nazis in World War 2 and was ultimately captured and died in Auschwitz.

If she wanted to know about Nazis maybe Phillips could have asked Jean-Marie Le Pen, MEP and then leader of the Front National. In November 2009 she wrote: "Is in the European Parliament and that charming Frenchman Jean-Marie Le Pen is in the office down the corridor? Maybe I should go and say hello".

Let's see how the self-appointed UKIP 'Spin Doctor' spins this mess.



# A call to arms

**Joe Mulhall** reports from Anjem Choudary's demonstration outside the Syrian embassy

ON A WARM Friday afternoon cries of "Sharia for Syria" and "Burn in hell Obama" bellowed out through a dilapidated loud hailer disrupting the tranquillity of the usually calm Belgravia Square in West London. Among the swanky cars lined up outside their respective Embassies stood around 45 followers, men in the middle, women and children banished to the side of the Islamist extremist Anjem Choudary, leader of numerous now banned terrorist groups such as Al-

Muhajiroun and Islam4UK.

Watched by only marginally less press, they had come to demonstrate outside the Syrian Embassy following the use of gas against civilians in the Syrian civil war.

Al-Muhajiroun actively campaign for the introduction of extreme Sharia Law and the establishment of a worldwide Khilafah. They had

come to the Syrian Embassy to demand that the Syrian rebels, and in particular the growing number of Islamist and Al-Qaida linked rebels, were armed so as to bring an end to the Assad regime and introduce Sharia law in Syria. Joining Anjem Choudary among the small group of extremists was Abu Izzadeen (Trevor Brooks) who is not long out of prison for supporting terrorism.

The rhetoric from the speakers was extreme with special venom directed towards Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki-moon, and Barrack Obama, as well as the usual targets of Britain and Israel. "The only way we will win is not with the ballot box but with bullets and bombs", said one of the speakers. Given the extensive links with domestic terrorism and their track record of sending Islamists to become foreign fighters in the Middle East, it was a haunting declaration.



(above) Abu Izzadeen attended the protest







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# Gloomy election prospects for far-right

**Michael Klein for Antifa-Net in Hanover previews the ballot**

SEPTEMBER'S national election is unlikely to bring any change in the status of Angela Merkel's conservative Christian Democrats as the strongest party on the German political landscape but, though unlikely to win any parliamentary seats, the fascist National Democratic party (NPD) is aiming to get maximum public attention and collar at least 0.5% of the vote in order to get its campaign costs refunded.

The NPD, Germany's oldest major fascist party, is due to celebrate its 50th anniversary next year and party leader Holger Apfel has been trying to attract new members and wider support with a new political programme branded "serious radicalism". These moves have had an underwhelming effect, causing widespread dissension and alienation among the openly national socialist revivalist elements.

The Nazi NPD's latest campaign started last year with an attempt to profit from widespread Euro-scepticism that has resulted from the ongoing Euro-crisis. Apfel and his allies are demanding an immediate return to the German Mark as the national currency and a quick exit from the European Union, emphasising that national sovereignty is its leading principle and that a coalition of European nation states instead of the European Union would be more appropriate to becoming a power bloc rivaling the United States. Central to this would be a drive to reduce migration and strengthen "white power" in Europe.

In fact, the NPD is in favour of quite another kind of supranational structure



in Europe: an empire with Germany as its centre and most other parts of the continent placed lower in the hierarchy.

## Grandiose

The second issue the NPD heavily campaigns on is increased migration of Roma people from Bulgaria and Romania. While most German communities want to prevent a recurrence of the appalling situation of the early 1990s when an influx of refugees and asylum-seekers was answered with massive racist violence, the NPD has taken the opportunity to launch racist agitation in those places where new housing for asylum seekers is already under construction.

The last weeks of the party's election campaign will see a nationwide tour with public meetings in as many places as possible. In the past, such grandiose activity has usually resulted in 10-15 NPD activists showing up to listen to a half-an-hour of turgid speeches without any members of the public, and the Nazis counting on media coverage created by anti-fascist counter-demonstrators.

Though forthcoming legal moves to ban the NPD are not currently playing any major role, it is becoming clear how the NPD plans to defend

itself against the accusation of acting aggressively against the democratic constitution. On the one hand, it will refer to the fact that some of the evidence piled up against it has been gathered by police or secret services informants.

This is not without precedent. In fact, revelations about large-scale implantation of state agents, informers and provocateurs led to the abandonment of the first governmental attempt to ban the NPD in the early 2000s. On the other hand, the Nazis will strongly argue that the governing parties are acting unconstitutionally by accepting the European Stability Mechanism because this transfers relevant decision-making powers to a body not under control by national governments or parliaments.

## Myopic

In addition to the NPD, the German Freedom Party and the Movement pro Germany are also hoping to lure voters on the basis of venomously anti-left, anti-Muslim and anti-EU propaganda. The single campaign poster issued by the Movement pro Germany demands 'More education, less immigration', but the financial and personal resources of both parties are meagre. They can only run candidates in selected areas

and do not have a snowball's chance in hell of entering the federal parliament, the Bundestag.

Finally, the new right-wing party, Alternative for Germany (AfD), founded in early February this year, has also entered the electoral contest. In the polls, it currently stands at 3% of the national vote, which would prevent it from entering the Bundestag.

The AfD's main message is that the Eurozone should be dissolved either in favour of a return to national currencies or in favour of a 'South'-Euro and a 'North'-Euro, dividing wealthy northern Europe from the considerably less prosperous south.

Although the party has grown very fast and currently has 15,000 members, its myopic focus on the Euro issue – while the Euro-crisis has spared the greater part of the German population – will reduce its chances on polling day.

Some far-right papers are urging the party, whose social base is the middle and upper middle class, to add a strong anti-immigrant position to its profile and to copy UKIP in Britain. So far, the AfD's leadership has successfully kept the far-rightists out of the mix knowing very well that this would reduce its chances even more.



# What a Florida court verdict tells us about Trayvon Martin, George Zimmerman & the USA

**Eric O'Neill** in Washington DC explains

IT WAS SATURDAY, 13 July and the entire country seemed in deep shock and starkly divided. A jury of six people found George Zimmerman “not guilty” of the murder of Trayvon Martin.

Martin, 17, died just 64m from his backdoor for three chief reasons: he was black, he was a kid who wanted to buy chocolate and he confronted the person stalking him. He was murdered on 26 February, 2012 and was found lying face down on a suburban Florida lawn from a single gunshot wound to the chest.

I wish I were completely dumbfounded that, in 2013, a 17-year-old African-American life could be so little valued in “post-racial” America and that the jury’s verdict was a complete miscarriage and aberration of American law.

If I could write about the verdict as an anomaly, in spite of its unfairness, then the verdict as an aberration would become a measure of how far society has progressed when it comes to America’s “colour line”.

I won’t revisit the details of the case here. The actions of Zimmerman and Martin have been dissected and debated for almost 18 months by the media and American public and most people have taken some kind of position at this point.

Plus, who needs a review when the outcome can simply be summed up in the 1857 words of Roger Taney, the Chief Justice of US Supreme Court who – presciently – wrote that Trayvon Martin “... had no rights which the white man was bound to respect”?

## Slavery

Taney wrote these words nearly 155 years ago in response to African-American Dred Scott who, born into chattel slavery, had demanded his own release while residing in a non-slave state. Despite both the legal and moral precedent, the Supreme Court not only denied the request but took a step further by denying Scott the ability to defend his rights in court. Scott died a year later.

Certainly, largely due to multiracial coalitions demanding action, the letter of the law regarding the equal treatment of blacks has significantly changed since those days but the *spirit* of the law has barely evolved.

For instance, according to a 2005 Justice Department study, whites and blacks behind the wheel of a car are stopped nearly on an equal basis. While, on the surface this sounds like progress, in these situations African Americans had their vehicles searched by police 11.4% of the time and whites only 3.5%. The truth is that African Americans still face stiff disparities when it comes to justice and punishment under the US legal system.

None of us should be surprised by the Zimmerman verdict or the fact that mainstream media organisations like CNN, MSNBC, ABC News, NBC News, Fox News, CBS News, and America’s allegedly liberal MSNBC used the same white separatist, Frank Taaffe, as a regular pundit during the trial. Taaffe made more than 100 media appearances and argued on one radio

show that whites and blacks have no business co-mingling.

Nor should we blink an eye at those who seek to justify the racist nature of the murder by attempting to deny that Zimmerman was white. That these things occur merely prove that all is correct with a US social order built on division and racism.

## Wrongness

It is common knowledge that blacks still receive longer sentences for most crimes. A 2013 report by the Commission on Sentencing found that black men in prison were given sentences nearly 20% longer than those handed to white men for similar crimes. In most states, blacks who kill whites are more likely to be sentenced to death, but what happens when it is whites killing blacks?

In Stand Your Ground States” like Florida it is 350% more likely that a judge or jury will find a white on black killing justified. Before crying out in shock at the wrongness of the “Stand Your Ground” law, one should know that that same percentage in a non-Stand Your Ground state is still 250%.

This is not simply about Florida or the South. Black life is cheap across the country in urban, suburban, and rural locales. The South is not special when it comes to killing people of colour and poor whites and it was these statistics swimming around my head on 13 July that most influenced my reaction to the jury’s verdict. Numb? Yes. Angry? Yes; but surprised? Not in the slightest.





(above) George Zimmerman, the neighbourhood watch volunteer accused of murdering Trayvon Martin (left), an unarmed black teenager

Under America's current legal system, how could one expect a jury's verdict to do anything but justify the stalking and murder of a black teenager, walking down the street, eating candy, while talking on his cell phone? One would have to be completely unaware of how the US legal system operates, living in a far-right fantasy world, or in a state of denial to believe that this trial might have delivered a different result.

I will leave it to the pundits, the far-rightists and those detached from reality to argue that a different outcome was ever likely. For me the memory of Trayvon Martin and those trampled on by a broken legal system deserve a little bit of truth.

My heart aches for the family of Trayvon Martin. No father or mother should outlive their child because America routinely uses black males as daily fodder for its racial fantasies and lynching fetishes.

### Racial profiling

Every 28 hours, a black man is killed by a police officer, security guard, or vigilante in America. Killing black men remains as American as baseball and apple pie. It is a blood sport that pre-dates both.

It is also so ingrained within the



psyche that the fear of black males is not simply the purview of many white Americans but has grown over time into a warped point of unity that transcends race, class, gender, ethnicity, religion, and nationality.

Even black law enforcement officers regularly find themselves on the receiving end of racial profiling and violence at the hands of fellow police.

The brutal truth is that beyond poverty, family stability and education, it is our society's loathing of black youth that leads too many of them to devalue the lives of each other with chilling consequences on the streets, suburban boulevards, and dusty back roads of America each night.

Each of us should be angry at how much the USA undervalued the life of Trayvon Martin, but we should move beyond expecting a different result from this legal system to actually changing it.

You don't have to live in the United States to help to rebuild its justice system so that it is grounded in equity and on real fairness. Send resources and letters of support to social justice organisations, demand that the US Department of Justice aggressively investigate these murders when they happen and ask international human rights bodies to do the same.

Yes, be angry today, next week, and even next year, but be angry enough to do better by those victims of racial violence. If not, we are no better than those who pull the trigger.



# POLAND Polish far right making headlines again

By Rafal Pankowski for Never Again in Warsaw

THE POLISH far right is making headlines again, intensifying its activities since the creation of the Nationalist Movement (Ruch Narodowy, RN), the latest incarnation of an extremist political tradition dating back to the 1920s. Simultaneously, levels of hate crime have risen dramatically, according to the 'Brown Book' published by the anti-racist monitoring organisation, 'NEVER AGAIN' association.

The RN's formation was announced in Warsaw in 2012 at a mass rally marking Polish Independence Day.

The RN was born out of an alliance of two groups dominating Polish extreme-right spectrum. The names of both groups point to their roots in the infamous tradition of anti-Semitic violence of the pre-war

period: the National-Radical Camp (Oboz Narodowo-Radykalny, ONR) takes its emblem and name from a fascist organisation banned for inciting hatred back in 1934. The All-Polish Youth (Młodzież Wszechpolska, MW) is named after a notorious anti-Semitic student group active in Polish universities from 1922. Their xenophobic stance is accompanied by an equally virulent homophobia.

The ONR-MW alliance has been responsible for the annual Independence Day marches in Warsaw which attract a growing number of participants representing a broad right-wing spectrum, as well as football fans from all over Poland.

The November 2012 event gathered some 30,000 participants (the organisers

claimed 100,000!), the mob on the street including far-right organisations from abroad, including Forza Nuova from Italy, Nordisk Ungdom from Sweden and a large delegation from the Hungarian fascist party, Jobbik.

RN leaders themselves have been frequent guests at Jobbik events in Hungary and it is Jobbik that provides the principal political model for RN.

Despite the hype surrounding RN, the Polish far right is still a pale shadow of its former self in terms of political impact when compared to its peak in the mid-2000s. For example, the radical nationalist League of Polish Families (Liga Polskich Rodzin, LPR) – which educated much of the current RN cadre – was the second largest party in the first Polish

European Parliament election in 2004, with almost 16% of the vote.

In 2006-2007, the LPR participated in a government coalition together with the conservative Law and Justice party (Prawo i Sprawiedliwość, PiS) and the populist Self-Defence (Samobrona). Its notorious leader Roman Giertych was simultaneously deputy prime minister and education minister.

Giertych shocked observers with his hardline policies, trying to get rid of "controversial" writers like Kafka and Dostoyevsky from the school curriculum. Scores of young right-wing extremists were nominated to high-level state jobs ranging from television and radio to fisheries.

The participation of

## POLAND KEY FACTS

### Political Parties

**Law and Justice** (Prawo i Sprawiedliwość/PiS) – started as a centre-right party led by the Kaczynski twins in 2001. Since 2005, it has formed a strategic alliance with the far-right Radio Maryja movement. It played the lead role in the right-wing government in 2005-2007, since then it has been the main opposition party. In the 2011 parliamentary election, it received 29.8% of the vote and 157 seats (out of 460).

**All-Polish Youth** (Młodzież Wszechpolska/MW) – created as a nationalist student group in 1922, reformed in 1989. Acted as the youth wing for the League of Polish Families (Liga Polskich Rodzin, LPR) in 2001-2007, including during its period in government in 2006-2007.



**National-Radical Camp** (Oboz Narodowo-Radykalny, ONR) – represented the Polish equivalent of the fascist movements in other European countries. Its emblem and accompanying symbolism were used by a group of skinheads in southern Poland. 2009: local branch in Brzeg banned by the regional court for promoting fascism.

**Nationalist Movement** (Ruch Narodowy/RN) – new far-right grouping officially launched in 2012, fusing the ONR and MW.

**Nationalist Rebirth of Poland** (Narodowe Odrodzenie Polski/ NOP) – competitor to the RN on the extreme right. NOP has long been integrated into the European neo-fascist scene through terrorist Roberto Fiore's networks (ITP, ENF).

**'Niklot' Association for Tradition and Culture** – a 'New Right' neo-pagan group drawing its activists from the so-called National Socialist Black Metal movement, existing on the fringes of both the LPR and Self-Defence party and participating in RN events.

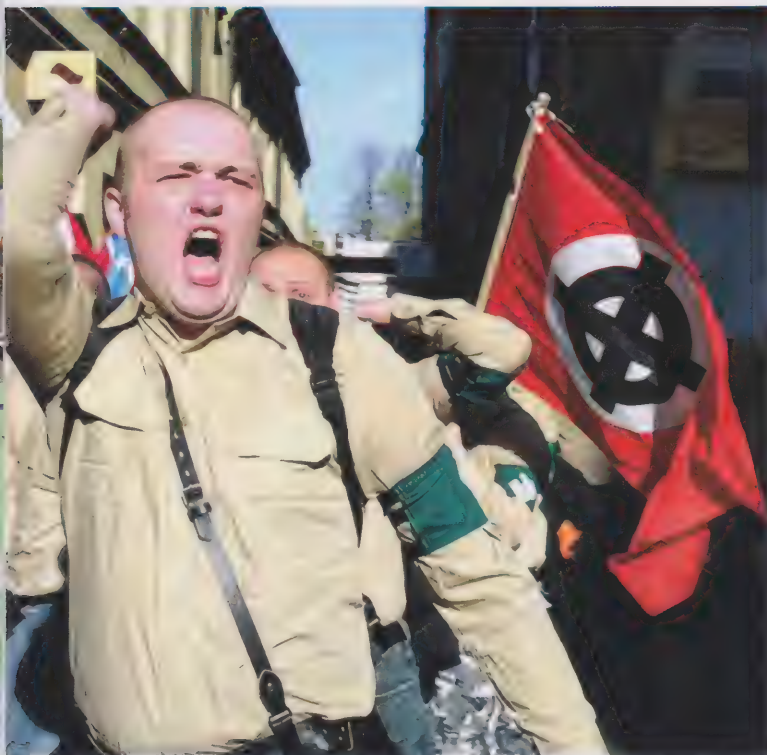
### Key figures

**Father Tadeusz Rydzyk** – priest with the Redemptorist Order, founder and leader of Radio Maryja and its associated media empire and social-political movement.

**Roman Giertych** – third generation heir to a Polish far-right political dynasty, re-formed the MW aged 16 in 1989. Leader of the LPR and deputy PM in 2006-2007. By 2012, he became publicly estranged from the new MW leadership.

**Artur Zawisza** – former PiS MP; main media spokesman for the RN, he has repeatedly defended





radical nationalists in the government came to an abrupt end when the right-wing coalition imploded and an early election resulted in resounding defeat, with both the LPR and Self-Defence losing all parliamentary seats.

Since then, much of the political space once occupied by the LPR has been taken over by the PiS which has

steadily moved to the right.

The PiS is now the main strategic partner of the nationalist-Catholic social movement around Radio Maryja and its anti-Semitic hate preacher, Father Tadeusz Rydzyk. Led by Jarosław Kaczyński, twin brother of the late President Lech Kaczyński, the PiS is the main party of opposition to the current

liberal government.

It is prone to conspiracy theories surrounding the presidential plane crash. It is perhaps not surprising the party appointed the veteran right-winger and conspiracy theory champion, Antoni Macierewicz (himself an ex-LPR member), as its main investigator of the crash. Macierewicz, for example, did not rule out the authenticity of the notorious *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* when interviewed on Radio Maryja.

Astonishingly, the PiS sits together with David Cameron's British Tories in the European Conservatives and Reformists group (ECR) in the European Parliament. Ex-ECR leader Michał Kamiński MEP eventually left the PiS complaining it was being "taken over by the extreme right".

Memorably, one PiS MP, Artur Górski, made a speech in the Polish Parliament moaning that Barack Obama's election was "the end of white man's civilization". Despite wide condemnation by the mainstream media he was not ostracised by the party leaders. On the contrary, he

was comfortably re-elected on the party slate in 2011. Górski and his colleagues are often seen at far-right events.

The lack of a *cordon sanitaire* between the mainstream right and racist extremists remains a discernible feature of Polish politics. Clearly, the PiS leaders believe they can accommodate the far-right surge at street level without legitimising it.

It remains to be seen whether there is any electoral potential for a new far-right force such as the RN while the PiS and Radio Maryja control the vast majority of the far-right vote.

One opinion poll gave the ONR-MW bloc 5 per cent of the vote "for sure" and another 11 per cent as "quite probably".

It seems unlikely RN will actually obtain this level of support at any election in the foreseeable future but the level of its potential support among the young should ring alarm bells.

According to the same poll, in the 18-24 age group it could count on 12% as "solid" votes and another 18% as "probable".

## MAP

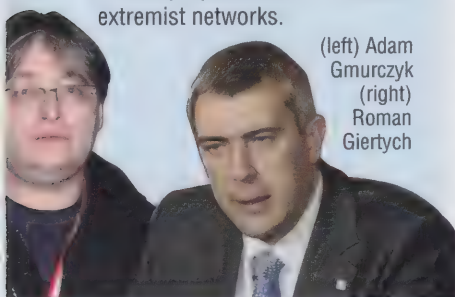
anti-Semitic outbursts by arguing that "Judeoskepticism is a legitimate cognitive perspective".

**Krzysztof Bosak** – an RN leader and former MW chairman and LPR MP, his main claim to fame is having participated in the Polish version of 'Strictly Come Dancing'.

**Adam Gmurczyk** – NOP leader since 1994, quoted as saying: "anti-Semitism is the virtue that we must cultivate with great care".

**Mateusz Piskorski** – former Niklot activist and Self-Defence MP; a key figure in East European extremist networks.

(left) Adam Gmurczyk  
(right) Roman Giertych



**Białystok:** once, multi-ethnic, cradle of Esperanto, now the scene of a growing level of hate crime as documented by the 'Never Again' association

**Warsaw:** location of annual Independence Day Marches organised by the MW and the ONR. The last march in 2012 attracted 30,000 participants

**Wrocław:** a hotbed of NOP activity with an annual March of the Patriots on 11 November. On 22 June, NOP members and Śląsk Wrocław football hooligans disrupted a lecture by sociologist Zygmunt Bauman

**Kostrzyn nad Odrą:** home of the annual anti-racist Woodstock festival attended by 500,000 people

**Poznań:** 8 August: at a Europa League match between Lech Poznań and Lithuanian club Žalgiris Vilnius, home side fans displayed a nationalist banner reading "Lithuanian scum – kneel down before the Polish lord!".

**Jedwabne:** Site of a pogrom of the town's Jewish inhabitants by their anti-Semitic neighbours in June 1941. In September, 2011, a monument to the victims daubed with large swastikas and inscriptions such as "We don't apologise for Jedwabne"

**Kielce:** site of the infamous post-war anti-Semitic pogrom in July 1946. In July, local public prosecutor ruled that hateful Internet forum entries using language like "Jewish carcass" were simply "humorous" and not offensive





# South East Alliance

THE SOUTH EAST ALLIANCE (SEA) is an Essex-based, close-knit gang led by former English Defence League (EDL) regional organiser for Essex and the South East, Paul Prodromou. Prodromou left the EDL after being sacked and then reinstated by EDL number two Kevin Carroll in late 2012, when it appeared the EDL was in its death throes.

Like most breakaway groups, the SEA survives on publicity stunts with a heavy mixture of violence and intimidation thrown in.

The SEA is active in Essex and parts of London and Kent, though is prepared to travel across the country to visit other EDL splinter groups doing equally small activities. Prodromou has billed himself as an alternative leader of the counter-Jihad street movement to Stephen Lennon, a more "honest" and "open" leader to the EDL boss, though he prefers to use the anglicised name Paul Pitt when he is with his activists.

Courted by traditional fascists, the SEA regularly

rub shoulders with the BNP in Essex and earlier this year joined an alliance that included the English Democratic Party (EDs) and former BNP fundraiser Jim Dowson's splinter group Britain First (BF), forming an umbrella organisation by the name of 'English National

Resistance' (ENR). ENR aims to "drive out anti-English elements" as well as Muslims going about their ordinary lives.

Despite an initial close-working relationship with Dowson's underling and BF leader Paul Golding, it appears Golding and Dowson

tired of the group's antics very quickly and the ENR was wound down.

An ageing group of individuals, the SEA suffers from organisational problems with regard to modern recruitment activities, has difficulties with technology and even basic literacy which



## SOUTH EAST ALLIANCE: POLITICS

IT IS HARD to ascertain what exactly the SEA's key policies are: They are ultra nationalist and linked to a number of neo-Nazi groups like the National Front, Infidels and Northern Patriotic Front.

No coherent ideology is displayed in the form of any kind of policy statement, but lead members of the group, driven by wild emotions and a rudimentary understanding of politics in general, air viciously anti-Communist rhetoric and lump most progressive politics in as Communist and part of the

world "Islam-Marxist" conspiracy.

Members of the group's online forum are also fiercely anti-immigration and anti-immigrant, calling for the immediate deportation of individuals highlighted by newspapers as being part of some large-scale immigrant scam against Britain's welfare system, but they do not differentiate between asylum seekers, Roma or other groups of immigrants.

Their members are vehemently anti-immigration, as they are of Islam. On a number of occasions members of the

SEA facebook group have called for Muslims to be deported and for Islam to be banned in this country.

A number of anti-Semitic posts, referring for instance to Facebook as "Jewbook" also remain unchallenged, so it is fair to say SEA imbues all forms of far-right extremism, paranoia and conspiracy theory common in low-level racist groups.

The group is also fiercely supportive of Ulster loyalism, critical of the Northern Irish peace process and in favour of arming the police and off-duty military personnel.







hampered their early growth. Having established itself on the counter-jihad scene and built string links with other breakaway groups like the Infidels and English Volunteer Force (EVF), the group suffered a major humiliation in July this year when – having promised “thousands and thousands” of marchers – the group abandoned a “march against terrorism” from Woolwich in South East London when just 60 activists turned up.

Like other groups, the SEA appears to be suffering now that the EDL is back up and rejuvenated.

The group preaches old-fashioned anti-immigrant and racist sentiment as well as attempting to defend “old fashioned English values”.

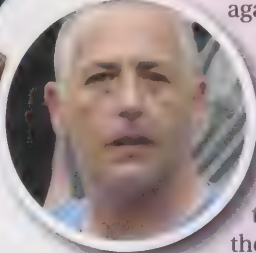


(above) Big on banners and noise  
(left) Prodromou and Golding in happier times intimidating people together

## KEY PEOPLE

### Paul Prodromou:

Prone to making large gestures of solidarity with other extremists, but came down with something of a bump in London recently when he and his group were deserted on their much-anticipated “march against terrorism”.

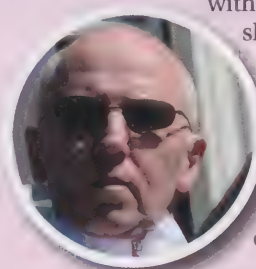


Uses the name ‘Pitt’ for his far-right activities, Prodromou rose to prominence in the EDL as its combative organiser for Essex, before being promoted to the regional organiser for the whole of the South East.

Rumoured to be a builder/roofer by trade, Prodromou is often seen as a steward on a host of far-right and counter-Jihad activities, promoting himself as the leader of the “alternative” EDL. Though he lacks the charisma or even “charm” of his rival Stephen Lennon, who leads the EDL, Prodromou spends most weekends travelling up and down the country attempting to engage others in acts of intimidation against the left or Muslims. Bizarrely, Prodromou and co believe they are responsible for the government removing Abu Qatada from the country after the SEA held a picket outside of the accused terrorist’s home, intimidating his family.

### Al Francis:

A veteran of fascist marches, Francis was reasonably unknown until coming to the forefront of the EDL in Essex in 2010/2011. Seen by many as Prodromou’s right-hand man, Francis is responsible for updating the group’s Facebook profile, from where most of their organising is done. Celebrates his 60th birthday this year.



### Andrew Kinggett

Former BNP activist from Dagenham in Essex. Kinggett is the father of Rifleman Martin Kinggett, who lost his life in Afghanistan in 2010.



Kinggett has been active with the BNP, EDL and now SEA, and keeps his son’s memory alive with a Facebook group where almost daily he makes comments concerning the plight of British military personnel, as well as updates about the family.

### Tony Curtis

Former lead member in the EDL, Curtis was close to joint leaders Stephen Lennon and Kevin Carroll until being unceremoniously dumped in Walthamstow in September 2012 when the EDL’s march was halted and attacked by locals.



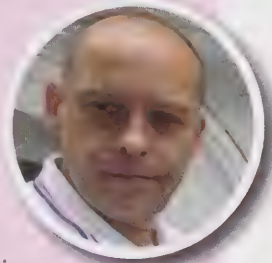
Based in Nottingham, Curtis sees himself as a link man between all of the different groups working outside of the EDL, acting in an almost “advisory” role and undertaking negotiations where necessary, with police forces and local authorities when the far-right want to march. In the wake of Walthamstow Curtis tried launching his own group, Nationalist Alliance, but it did not take off due to lack of interest and his own geographical location, where there has been only sporadic EDL activity.

### Gary Field aka ‘Pat Riot’

Margate-based Field is a well-known figure on marches and demonstrations around the South East and well known to the police in Thanet, where he is described as a “troubled” character. Constantly updating Facebook, there is an element of both fantasist and fanaticism about Field, who constantly describes the brawls he has with “reds” or militant Islamists in the sleepy seaside town. He is currently on a tag and has restrictions on his movements, but it has not stopped him carrying out an almost imaginary war against the “Islamist-Marxist” conspiracy among the fruit machines and candy floss stalls on Margate seafront.

### Edwin Stanton

Long-time violent neo-Nazi from East London who was one of the first (and only) people to be driven out of the EDL for their outright Nazism. Stanton uses a number of variants of his name in a career that has spanned the British Movement, National Front, British National Party, Combat 18, British People’s Party and Blood and Honour. For a while he was Prodromou’s bodyguard, but excessive drinking and his unreliability coupled with allegations of financial irregularities, has left him on the outer and searching for (another) new home in a market of diminishing opportunities.



**For information on other hate groups visit  
[www.hopenothate.org.uk/hate-groups/](http://www.hopenothate.org.uk/hate-groups/)**



# Superb Gala brings HOPE for future

By Graeme Atkinson



ON 13 JULY, more than 100,000 trade unionists and people of the county's former pit villages flocked into Durham, in brilliant sunshine and sweltering heat for the 129th annual Durham Miners' Gala.

After marching proudly, banners flying and brass bands playing, in colourful and mighty procession through the ancient city, they heard powerful speeches from Unite leader Len McCluskey, RMT leader Bob Crow, journalist and author Owen Jones, prominent HOPE not hate supporter Kevin Maguire of the *Daily Mirror*, TUC general secretary Frances O'Grady and Ricky Tomlinson of the Shrewsbury 24.

The Gala, organised by the Durham Miners' Association (DMA), is a tremendous celebration of trade unionism and the working class community spirit. HOPE not hate was proud to take part in this magnificent event which now faces a hard fight to raise funds and secure its future after a court decision left the DMA facing court costs of £1.4m: the price of its determined fight for

compensation for the thousands of miners left with osteoarthritis of the knee due to their work in the mining industry.

As part of its ongoing close co-operation with the DMA – which began last year with the Spanish miners' strike and was strengthened by our joint engagement against the appointment of self-proclaimed fascist Paolo di Canio as coach of Sunderland AFC earlier this year – HOPE not hate produced a special 12-page colour Durham Miners' Gala supplement in support

Fishburn Colliery Band plays the Miners' Hymn "Gresford"  
Photos: David Temple/DMA



of the campaign to secure the gala's future and back the DMA's efforts to warn of fascist attempts to exploit the growing hardship in the county's former mining communities. The supplement was enthusiastically promoted on the DMA's website.

## Highly praised

Said the miners' organisation: "As part of its ongoing cooperation with the Durham Miners' Association, the anti-fascist organisation HOPE not hate has produced an excellent full-colour 12-page supplement marking the Durham Miners' Gala as a 'Celebration of Trade Unionism and Community Spirit'. Introduced by Durham miner's son, Kevin Maguire, with a keynote article by DMA General Secretary Dave Hopper and containing a history of past galas well as an important article on fighting for our communities, it is a "must read" for all supporters of the Gala, the DMA and the miners' cause here and abroad."

A highly-praised and hard-hitting article on "Communities under strain" by HNH activist Paul Meszaros has now been reproduced in the latest edition of the *Durham Miner*, while the event's official 100-page programme contained features on HOPE not hate and the internationalist response by Durham and other UK miners to the 1942 Nazi massacre of the Czech pit village of Lidice.

At the gala, every trade union present took copies of the supplement for distribution from their tents and stalls. Several ran out of copies and came back for more. Many hundreds of copies were distributed on the Racecourse and HNH activists were complimented on the publication by many.

In his gala message, printed in the programme, DMA General





Secretary Dave Hopper put the issue squarely: "As our towns and villages face more and more deprivation, we are witnessing the rise of fascist and racist groups who feed on ignorance, fear and hatred. Although these groups are relatively small at present they must not be ignored or left unchallenged. The far-right-wing United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP), with its nationalist and xenophobic culture, came second in the recent South Shields by-election and there can be no room for complacency.

"We must never forget the lessons of the past and be ever vigilant. Our villages bear witness, with their war memorials, to the price our fathers and grandfathers paid in the fight against fascism. That is also why we were so disappointed by the choice of manager by the directors of Sunderland AFC."

The DMA has now launched a campaign to work with other involved social organisations and community groups to fight hardship in the former Durham coalfield, addressing issues of poverty, providing advice and assistance to those hit by the government's savage benefit cuts and opposing attempts to foment racial hatred.

HOPE not hate fully supports this DMA campaign which was successfully launched at community meetings in Murton on 2 July and Easington on 8 August and which will be carried into communities across the coalfield.

● **Contact Friends of the Durham Miners' Gala here:**  
[www.durhamminers.org](http://www.durhamminers.org)



HOPE not hate's 12-page supplement marking the Durham Miners' Gala as a 'Celebration of Trade Unionism and Community Spirit'.

# TOLPUDDLE

By Matthew Collins

IF THE GLASTONBURY Festival is the choice of hedonists, then the Tolpuddle Festival is the choice of activists. Tolpuddle is held on the third weekend of July every year.

Under a clear blue Dorset sky dominated by trade union banners, thousands of people from across the UK pitched tents for the 2013 festival, a labour movement commemoration of six farm workers punished and banished for forming a trade union in 1834.

This year's festival was a sell-out. Every inch of available greenery was covered by tents, stalls, marquees, tables and chairs. The Tolpuddle festival is a celebration that trade unionism survives. Children with painted faces, activists with clip boards, men and women in costume and political t-shirts, cross fields and in and out of tents and marquees watching musical performances, engaging in or listening to debates, or simply sitting in chairs waiting for another passing conversation and lifelong friendship to be struck.

By Sunday afternoon as the encircling hedges threatened to burst at the seams, trade unionists formed behind their political parties, trade unions and association, brass bands and marching bands, to march one circle of the village before returning for speeches. This year, TUC General Secretary, Frances O'Grady, delivered a scorching speech on Con-Dem cuts, before Tony Benn, a firm favourite of Tolpuddle regulars, delivered a measured and often emotion-inducing address. Activists and trade unionists are Benn's people, he has spent the majority of his 88 years campaigning with and for them. Thousands of voices fell silent to hear him speak.

As the stalls closed and the beer tents emptied, Billy Bragg brought the festival to a close with a great set under a blistering sun. The hearty few who remained took in the local pub to while away their last few hours in progressive seclusion and made plans with friends old and new to continue the tradition of Tolpuddle next year.



Billy Bragg ends the festivities with a storming solo set. Photo: Theo Michael



# The nazi tour

**Paul Cooper** examines the sometimes surprising links between politics and cycling round the world

**T**alk today of politics and cycling and you'd probably expect to hear about complex internal wrangling within the UCI (international cycling's governing body) or the role of government in promoting cycling as an environmentally friendly and healthy means of transport.

You wouldn't expect references to political history. But even a brief a look at cycling's background reveals a compelling and dramatic tale of sport and politics as the tough mountain battles await the riders in this year's Vuelta a España.

In the days when popular access to bicycles meant new opportunities for communication and mobilisation, the political advantages of getting about on two wheels were seized upon by the Left.

In the so-called 'red-belt' of central Italy, the 'red cycling' movement was formed in Imola in 1913, with cyclists deployed as fast-paced pickets and protestors in campaigns for fair work opportunities in the Po Valley.

In pre-First World War Germany, the Workers' Cycling Federation had 150,000 members and ran its own cycle shops, co-operative factory and newspaper, *The Worker Cyclist*. In Britain in the same period, the socialist *Clarion Cycling Club* developed more than 120 branches and a membership of 7,000.

Known as *Clarionettes* its members rode from Britain's major cities into the countryside, carried copies of the left-leaning *Clarion* newspaper and organised meetings to spread their political message.

Although the club's membership and its political emphasis declined after the Second World War, it is still going strong as a unique cycling organisation. With more than 30 sections throughout the country, it has a national membership close to 1,400 and an annual 'Easter Meet' which at one point could boast the rare distinction of being infiltrated by plain-clothes police officers.

## Significance

One former *Clarion* member, Barry Hoban, the well-liked former colliery apprentice from West Yorkshire whose first club was *Calder Clarion*, held the British record of eight stage wins in the Tour de France between 1967 and 1975 until he was surpassed by Isle of Man's cycling *wunderkind*, Mark Cavendish, in 2009.

(main image) Gino Bartali  
(left) Huge Crowds  
in Brescia Celebrate  
Stage and Red Jersey  
Victory for Britain's Mark  
Cavendish in 2013 Giro





But while the bike, with its ability to enable communication, transport, and social networking, was a feature of left-wing political life in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the political significance of cycling as a sport was also recognised by the Right. And, perhaps not surprisingly, grand politics have played their part in the history of cycling's biggest sporting spectacles, the three-week tours of France, Spain and Italy; the Tour de France, Vuelta a España and the Giro D'Italia.

The origin of the Tour de France is often described as a publicity stunt in a circulation battle between two rival French newspapers. But that's only half the story.

The anti-Semitic prosecution of Jewish Army captain, Alfred Dreyfus, falsely accused of passing secrets to the Germans in 1894, split France along political lines. In 1900, right-wing advertisers in the leading cycling newspaper *Le Velo* – who had become frustrated by the public insistence of the newspaper's editor, Pierre Giffard, that Dreyfus was innocent – withdrew their finance to start a rival publication, *L'Auto*.

Their aim was not just to compete with *Le Velo*, but to drive it out of business. Their earliest two years were far from successful, as the circulation of *L'Auto* failed to develop and *Le Velo's* increased. In a crisis meeting in 1903, Geo Lefevre, a member of *L'Auto's* editorial team, suggested sponsoring a cycle race so epic in scale that no competitor could match it – a Tour de France.

*L'Auto's* backing for the Tour, which first ran in 1903, enabled it to prosper and the lineage of today's organisers of the Tour de France, the *Amaury Sport Organisation (ASO)*, can be traced to it. And *Le Velo*? It ceased circulation in 1904.

The Vuelta a España also has an early life associated with the politics of the extreme Right. It was established by the Spanish newspaper *Informaciones*

in 1935. The newspaper's editorial, unambiguously tilting towards the ideology of the Spanish Falangist (fascist) movement, announced the race as an incarnation of the country's sense of patriotism – in the first race after the civil war in 1941, the Vuelta's peleton sang *Cara al Sol*, the Falangist anthem, at race start in Madrid's Puerta del Sol.

### False documents

The Giro D'Italia, which first ran in 1909, emerged through competition between two major newspapers. *La Gazzetta dello Sport*, which still runs the race today and which historically supported the Mussolini regime, pre-empted a move by its rival, *Il Corriere dello Sport*, to stage a Tour of Italy. But it was only later that the race took on huge political significance.

Although Mussolini preferred motor racing to cycling, he understood the cultural potency of sport as a medium for communicating political messages, and in the build-up to the Second World War prevailed upon cycling legend Gino Bartali to compete in the Giro wearing

“perhaps not surprisingly, grand politics have played their part in the history of cycling's biggest sporting spectacles, the three-week tours of France”

a black jersey as a symbol of the fascist movement. Bartali, a Tuscan and devout Catholic, refused. During the war he was part of a Catholic network of convents which provided protection and escape routes for Italian Jews. His role was transporting false documents in the tubing of his bike.

Bastille Day in 1948 was a rest day in Cannes for the year's Tour de France. That year *Le Grande Boucle* was made up of national teams and Bartali was the captain of one of two Italian squads sent to compete, with his Italian arch-rival, Fausto Coppi, opting not take part. But as the riders rested in the south of France, events in Italy took a sinister turn.

The leader of Italy's Communist Party, Palmiro Togliatti, was the victim of an assassination attempt by a young right-wing Sicilian, Antonio Pallante. Shot as he left the country's parliament building in Rome, bullets penetrated Togliatti's head and chest. As news spread, the

fragile stability that had emerged at the end of the war was threatened and a return to civil war became a strong possibility as disturbances erupted throughout the country.

Back in France, an off-the-pace Bartali was 21 minutes behind French race leader, Louison Bobet, and with only one week of the Tour remaining, already discounted as a Yellow Jersey contender. But in an outstanding performance in the three days of riding that followed, Bartali recovered the gap, winning three stages in a row, and taking the top step on the podium in Paris more than twenty-six minutes ahead of his nearest rival, Belgium's Alberic Briek.

### Anti-fascist

Possibly the stuff of legend, the accepted version of events is that the spur for Bartali's remarkable recovery was a telephone call from Alcide De Gasperi, President of the Council of Ministers, and leader of Italy's Christian Democratic Party. De Gasperi, a longstanding opponent of fascism, who had been imprisoned under the Mussolini regime, implored his friend to use cycling's massive following in Italy as a calming influence by winning the race 'for Italy'.

This year, Italy's Giro D'Italia finished in May, with 300,000 elated Italian cycling fans cramming into the city of Brescia to see Italian rider Vincenzo Nibali take the overall winner's pink jersey after three-weeks of emphatic race domination.

Few of the elated fans who filled the city's historic Piazza della Loggia to see their Sicilian hero on the winner's podium, had opportunity to pause at the plaque, which commemorates the eight people killed and 100 wounded when a bomb planted in the square exploded during an anti-fascist protest in May 1974.

The significance of holding the podium celebrations in the Piazza della Loggia was huge, important as a surefooted statement of defiance and recovery from a terrorist atrocity but also as a reminder that politics is never far from any sphere – sporting or otherwise.

■ Paul Cooper ([www.paulfranciscooper.co.uk](http://www.paulfranciscooper.co.uk)) is a cycling writer and photographer. He writes a regular column for the *Liverpool Echo*, contributes to the *North West digital cycling magazine Spincyclemag.com*, and has recently completed a chapter in 'Golden Stages', an anthology of epic stages in the history of the Tour de France.





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